THE TIMES

No 61,793

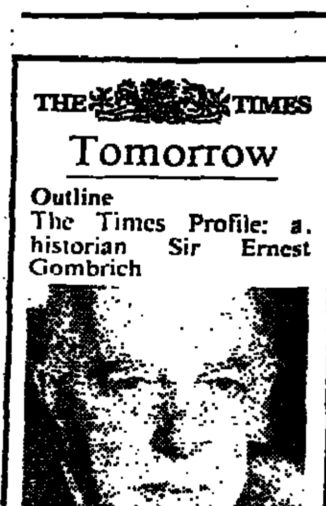
WEDNESDAY MARCH 28 1984

20p

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Outline
The Times Profile: a. historian Sir Ernest Gombrich



Line-up
John Best on the six main contenders to succeed Pierre Trudeau as prime minister of Canada

Line-out
Peter Marson reports from rosslyn Park, where hundreds of young rugby players are taking part in the national schools seven-a-side championship

Lines
Robert Nye looks at W. H. Auden's translations of Norse poems on the Books page. Also Michael Ratcliffe reviews *The Rise and Fall of the Political Press in Britain*, by Stephen Koss

NUM moderates vote to force national meeting

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The biggest breakthrough in the five-month-old coal miners' dispute came yesterday when union moderates voted in secret to force a meeting of the National Union of Mineworkers' executive that could call a strike ballot.

After a week of indecision among the once dominant right-wing contingent on the union's, nine area leaders met privately at a public house in Leicestershire to draw up a timetable to halt the growing strike in the industry.

Last night, they demanded immediate recall of the executive so that a national ballot could be held on pay and pit closures, and in the interim urged that coalfields where 60,000 men have voted to work normally should be freed from "flying pickets" and resume output.

A top-level row is certain to follow in the mineworkers' union, whose national officials were in London yesterday defending a High Court action brought by the coal board.

They were caught on the hop by the moderates' gathering at the Brant Inn, Groby, which could force Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing president of the union, and Mr Peter Heathfield, its general secretary, to call the executive into emergency session.

Hitherto, the two national officials have declined to set in motion the machinery for a pithead ballot on the ground that the areas were divided about what step to take.

But Mr Jack Jones, secretary of the Leicestershire miners, said: "There is now a clear mandate for a national ballot. We are in a majority and the national executive should reconvene and call for a ballot."

Although only nine members of the executive attended yesterday's meeting, others sent their apologies and the moderates believe that they can muster a 14–10 majority to take the strike issue to a vote of the men.

The coal board welcomed the development, saying that a pithead ballot was the only way to end the present bitterness between the union areas and the conflict between groups of union members.

The board has not sought to bring to the attention of the High Court flagrant breaches of its injunction against unlawful secondary picketing. A spokesman said last night: "We shall go back to the court if we judge that it is necessary. We are holding off to allow the union's democratic process to work and at the moment they seem to be working."

The board's optimism was not supported by comments from Mr Heathfield. He said: "I am astonished that the Right have had a caucus meeting in the delicate situation we are facing. I am concerned about developing unity within our ranks and not exploiting differences." He added: "I would not like to speculate on what would be done by a full national executive."

The moderates are now clearly determined to force the drawn-out dispute to an issue. If they do compel a strike ballot, it will almost certainly be on a double question about whether the miners should accept a 5.2 per cent "final" pay offer and whether they want to strike against coal board plans to shut 20 pits and shed 20,000 jobs.

The vote is unlikely to take place for at least a week, and in the meantime, there will be strong pressures within the traditionally moderate coalfields that have ballotted against striking to resume normal working. About 20,000 men in the Midlands and Lancashire now subject to local strike instructions despite having voted against industrial action, would be free to defy pickets from Yorkshire and South Wales.

They are being told "we leave it to your conscience to return to work as soon as possible" pending the national pithead ballot in which a 55 per cent majority is required under union rules before an all-out strike may be mounted.

The coal board does not expect the poll to be a "walkover" against stiking, despite the votes for normal working in moderate areas. However, informed union sources last suggested that the overall result would fall short of the required majority.

Areas accounting for about half the country's 183,000 miners were represented at yesterday's meeting. They came from Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Cumbria, North Wales, Lancashire, South Derbyshire, the Midlands and its associated craftsmen.

Motorway blockade, page 36

Departing moment: Police officers leading a picket away from the skirmishes outside the National Coal Board's area headquarters in Doncaster, South Yorkshire, yesterday.

Ministers fail again in Brussels

From Ian Murray Brussels

There was total and angry failure in Brussels yesterday when EEC foreign ministers tried to salvage something from the wreck of last week's summit.

National positions, which once seemed so close, have become more entrenched than ever, with each delegation announcing that it had withdrawn all concessions. The Commission has been asked to try to draft fresh proposals for the next meeting in Luxembourg on April 9. Britain is still being held to blame. "The British have not withdrawn their concessions", a French spokesman said "because they never made any".

The failure of the meeting meant that the question of freeing Britain's promised £457m rebate from the Community was not even raised. But Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said afterwards that there were no plans to make an issue of it.

The meeting collapsed because it proved impossible to bridge the gap between the £600m rebate offered by the nine other countries and the £780m Britain insists is its minimum requirement witin a new system. Thus, although everyone round the table did accept that a new system was needed for calculating national contributions, it proved impossible to agree to staring point.

Sir Geoffrey said the remaining gap was one of 25 per cent – and that was "substantial". He said Britain had already made "formidable and numerous" concessions and it would be difficult to defend or explain to the British people why they should be expected to pay any more to the Community budget when so many other member states were much wealthier.

The mood of the meeting was soured from the start by the matching failure of agriculture ministers, meeting in an adjacent room, to make any progress towards resolving the Irish milk problem. Another Farm Council is to be held on Friday to try once again to break this deadlock, but the omens are not good.

Despite it all, the British delegation remained resignedly optimistic. "In the end, they are condemned to succeed", one official said. The British feel their best hope is to sit back and wait for the Community to run out of money. Once that happens, as an official put it, "the others will come to us. We are all together in one room and the only way out is through a door to which we have the key."

But some dangerously harsh words were being spoken as the meeting ended. Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, was reported as having told the Council: "We have reached the

Continued on back page, col 8

Tories rebel again on rates

The Government suffered another revolt when its rate-capping Bill returned to the floor of the Commons for the report stage. Eight Conservative MPs, including Mr Geoffrey Rippon, the former Cabinet minister, voted for an Opposition clause designed to limit the number of government controls over local authority budgets

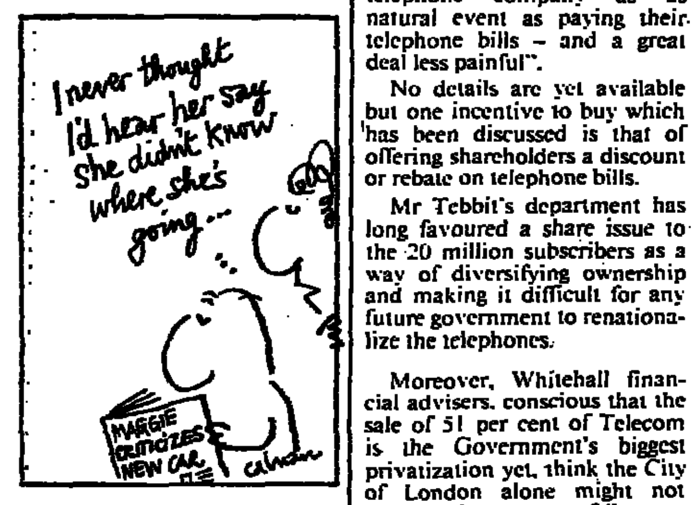
Rate-limits 'will fail', page 2; Parliament, page 4

Visit soured

President Chaim Herzog of Israel arrived in London on a five-day visit to find his embassy seething over reports of a £90m British arms sale to Jordan Page 8

£50m order

The US shipping line Lykes Brothers has signed a letter of intent with Harland and Wolff of Belfast for two container ships worth £50m, with an option for four more. Page 23



Car of future

Ford's car of the future which Mrs Thatcher said should be redesigned was put on public display in London Page 3

Soviet guest

Mr Georgy Kornienko, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, arrived in Britain last night, the highest-ranking Russian to pay a visit on official business for eight years Page 6

Difficult task

Zola Budd, the young South African athlete who wants to compete for Britain in the Olympic Games, has her work cut out to qualify against the vastly-improved British women Page 29

Share offer to Telecom subscribers

By Bill Johnstone and Jonathan Davis

The Government yesterday confirmed its commitment to offer shares to telephone subscribers when British Telecom is privatized this autumn.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, made the announcement at the Finance Houses Association in London. He said: "Real public ownership is when people regard owning shares in their telephone company as as natural event as paying their telephone bills – and a great deal less painful".

No details are yet available but one incentive to buy which has been discussed is that of offering shareholders a discount or rebate on telephone bills.

Mr Tebbit's department has long favoured a share issue to the 20 million subscribers as a way of diversifying ownership and making it difficult for any future government to renationalize the telephones.

Moreover, Whitehall financial advisers, conscious that the sale of 51 per cent of Telecom is the Government's biggest privatization yet, think the City of London alone might not produce the necessary £4bn.

Mentally ill Ripper sent to Broadmoor

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, was moved yesterday to Broadmoor Hospital from Parkhurst prison suffering from what Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, escribed as grave mental illness.

Sutcliffe, sentenced to life imprisonment in May 1981 on 13 counts of murder and seven of attempted murder, could nowbe a serious danger to prison staff and others, and required treatment that could be given only in hospital, Mr Brittan told MPs in a parliamentary written reply.

He ordered the transfer under the Mental Health Act, after fresh reports from Dr John Hamilton, Broadmoor's medical director, and Dr Brian Cooper, principal medical adviser at Parkhurst, which concluded that Sutcliffe was a paranoid schizophrenic.

Mr Brittan said he was satisfied Sutcliffe's mental condition had deteriorated seriously.

It was said last night that the medical reports showed that Sutcliffe believed he was hearing voices. He had no understanding of his condition and would not accept medical treatment which prisoners could not be compelled to undergo.

At his trial Sutcliffe said he had heard God's voice telling him to kill prostitutes.

He denied murder but admitted manslaughter on grounds of diminished responsibility. In convicting him of the murders the jury rejected his plea that paranoid schizophrenia drove him to commit the offences.

Since the trial Sutcliffe has been kept in a single cell in the Parkhurst hospital wing. Last year he suffered face and neck injuries requiring 30 stitches after being attacked by another prisoner. His attacker was given an extra five years.

Mr Brittan said he was satisified that stringent security precautions would be taken at Broadmoor. He added that if Sutcliffe's mental health improved he might be returned to prison.

Sutcliffe's wife, Sonia, said: "I feel justified. This has confirmed what I have known all the time – that Peter is a sick person, they should have found this out before now."

Sutcliffe's elder sister, Maureen, said: "The whole family is delighted at the news. I do not know what his condition is. I have not been able to see him since his conviction, and it is impossible to tell from his letters.

Cool Queen lifts British prestige in Jordan

From Christopher Walker Amman

Unruffled by blanket security of an intensity rare even by Middle Eastern standards, the Queen coolly fulfilled a punishing programme of official engagements yesterday in a tour which diplomats hope may give Britain greater prominence in efforts to secure a regional peace.

Although prevented by threat of attack from Syrian-backed Palestinian extremists from all but the barest minimum of spontaneous contact with local Arabs – many of whom are of Palestinian origin – the dignified conduct of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh has strengthened Britain's diplomatic profile at a time when Jordan – US relations are at a low ebb. While the royal party were fulfilling their timetable in fast-moving motorarcades with no unscheduled stops, Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office was meeting Jordan's foreign minister, Mr Taher Ali-Masri.

A Palestinian born in the Israeli-occupied town of Nablus, Mr Al-Masri was formerly Ambassador in London before his promotion in the new Cabinet appointed by King Husain last January. British officials hope that their close connexions with him will help the Government in its bid to secure the £90m missile contract recently scrapped by President Reagan.

The possibilities for Britain's new role were emphasized by the King in an interview with a team from TV-am. He called on the Thatcher Government to work in co-ordination with the EEC to reach a comprehensive settlement, adding that Britain could play "an effective role" in the Middle East peace efforts because of its familiarity with the problem.

The warmth with which the royal party has been welcomed by an Arab leader regarded by the Israeli government as one of the main obstacles to Middle East peace may cause new problems during the five-day visit to Britain which Israel's president, Mr Chaim Herzog, began yesterday.

The attitude of the Jordanian Government towards Britain's sympathetic stance on the Palestinian issue – featured in a speech by the Queen which referred to their plight as "a

Photograph, page 8

Continued on back page, col 7

Trade surplus leaps to £819m as exports set record

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain turned in its best trade performance for more than a year last month, as exports soared to record levels.

The surplus on trade in goods of £569m, after a deficit of £339m in January, far surpassed City expectations, lifting the pound on foreign exchange markets.

After adding in an estimated £250m surplus on trade in invisibles – services such as banking, insurance and shipping – Britain recorded a balance of payments current account surplus of £819m, the highest since the end of 1982, and an improvement of more than £900m from the £89m deficit in January.

The February figures were helped by higher oil exports and a big jump in exports of so-called erratic items, including ships, aircraft, precious stones and bullion. The two together accounted for more than half the 15 per cent surge in total exports to a new peak of £6.03 billion.

The monthly trade figures have seesawed unpredictably in recent months. But the underlying trend suggests that the deterioration in Britain's trade account evident since 1981 may have come to a halt.

The surplus on trade in goods in the three months to February was £600m, compared with a deficit of £300m in the previous three months. The bulk of the improvement was due to oil, but the deficit on trade in non-oil goods also shrank by £200m to £1.9 billion.

The volume of exports was 7.5 per cent up in the latest three months from three months earlier and 9.5 per cent higher than at the same time last year.

The trade and industry department said yesterday that exports were up across the board and the underlying level of non-oil exports had risen sharply since the middle of last year.

The Government expects exports of goods and services to increase by 5 per cent this year after a meagre 0.5 per cent in 1983, as world economic recovery gathers steam. The Treasury is predicting a £2 billion current account surplus in 1984, the same as last year.

Imports, however, are also expected to grow rapidly, by 7 per cent this year compared with 5 per cent last. In the latest three months imports overall were only a little higher than in the previous three months but imports of manufactures were up 5.5 per cent and there was an 11 per cent jump in imports of consumer goods other than cars.

Thatcher defends secrecy

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Prime Minister, commenting for the first time on the case of Miss Sarah Tisdall, who leaked arrival dates of cruise missiles said in the Commons yesterday that no government could carry on its business unless it could trust civil servants to keep classified documents to themselves.

To show her consistency, Mrs Thatcher recalled that in June 1976 she had spoken in the same sense as leader of the Opposition when Mr James Callaghan, who was then Prime Minister, announced an inquiry into a Cabinet leak.

Mr Callaghan told the Commons then that "there must be absolute confidence that papers and discussions that take place are kept within the circle to whom they are given".

Supporting him, Mrs Thatcher said the Conservatives fully shared his view of the gravity of the matter. It was essential that confidentiality of discussions and documents should be assured.

The 1976 incident concerned the publication in the magazine *New Society* of an article describing arguments in Cabinet about the child benefit scheme, about which there were strong differences among Labour ministers.

Mr Callaghan said it was clear that the author had access to Cabinet minutes which were accurately quoted.

Yesterday, Mrs Thatcher said Mr Callaghan was right to order an investigation and she had been right in supporting him.

● Journalists at *The Guardian* in London yesterday condemned as harsh and punitive the six-month jail sentence on Miss Tisdall and said they would take up a collection of £2,000 to assist her

Letters, page 15

Shutdown for buses and Tubes

By Tony Samstag

Almost all of London's bus and Tube services are expected to shut down today in a protest against Government proposals to abolish the Greater London Council and metropolitan county councils next, to implement "rate-capping" and to take over the running of London Transport.

The protest is being held 24 hours before a national "day of action" so that participants will be able to rach London rallying points for the main event taking place tomorrow.

British Rail is expected to run normally, except where staff are unable to get to work because of the London Transport shutdown, or where passenger overloading causes delays. green Line coaches will also run normaly, although some buses may terminate at the GLC boundary.

London Transport said yesterday that the safest assumption, was that none of its services would run.

Scotland Yard said normal parking restrictions would apply.

The Britih Airports Authority was planning to run a special coach service from 6 am until 10 pm. Twelve coaches will travel between Heathrow Airport and Paddington and Victoria coach stations at roughly half-hourly intervals.

The Automobile Association urged motorists to stagger their journeys to and from work to avoid the extended rush-hours expected.

There were no insurance problems with car-sharing, so long as the driver did not charge passengers more than a "reasonable share" of the costs, the AA spokesman said.

The Public Carriage Office expected a near-normal number of taxis in the streets.

MP's challenge over Oman contract

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, last night challenged the Prime Minister to sue him for publishing a statement on her alleged interest in the Cementation contract for a new university in Oman.

He told *The Times*: "There is nothing she can sue me over. The truth is an absolute defence to defamation; it ceases to be libel if it is true."

The statement was initially sent to the Commons Select Committee on Members' Interests, as evidence in support of two complaints made by Mr Sedgemore, a barrister, that the Prime Minister should have declared an interest in the Commons.

In a report released on Monday, the select committee rejected the MP's complaints and refused to publish his five-page memorandum. Select committee publication would have given the MP's allegations the legal protection of parliamentary privilege.

But after Mr Sedgemore had distributed copies to journalists at the Commons, he protested to the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, that non-publication had rendered the report "incomprehensible and meaningless."

He told the House that if a select committee showed a party political bias, protecting a colleague by failing to print evidence, then "the odour of political corruption would hang heavy in the air."

Sir Geoffrey Finsberg, the Conservative MP for Hampstead and Highgate, intervened to defend the select committee for refusing "to publish rubbish from the gutter".



Mr Sedgemore: "Nothing to sue me over"

Mr Sedgemore's statement contains 15 "facts", three "inescapable and irresistable inferences" and a list of suggested witnesses, including Mrs Thatcher and her son, Mark.

The Conservative backbench motion supporting the Prime Minister's pursuit of Britain's interest had been signed by another eight MPs according to yesterday's parliamentary papers. They were: Sir Dudley Smith, Mr Tom Normanton, Mr Antony Marlow, Sir Humphrey Atkins, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Mr George Walden, Mr Piers Merchant, and Mrs Sally Oppenheim.

It was mistakenly reported yesterday that Mr Nicholas Winterton, MP for Macclesfield had not signed. He signed on March 15.

Minister tries to avert revolt by Tories over political levy

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, was trying last night to avert a Conservative backbench revolt over union members' contributions to political funds.

More than eighty Conservatives have signed a new clause to the Trade Union Bill *proposing a statutory right* for union members to refuse political levy payments unless they had given written notice that they wished to contribute.

But Mr King, in line with the Conservative manifesto commitment, has reached an agreement with the TUC that the unions should attempt a voluntary scheme "to ensure that individual members are freely and effectively able to decide for themselves whether or not to pay the political levy."

The manifesto also said: "In the event that the trade unions are not willing to take such steps, the Government will be prepared to introduce measures to guarantee the free and effective right of choice."

Mr King was meeting small groups of rebels last night in an *attempt to persuade them* to back down.

But Mr John Townend, MP for Bridlington, and Mr Vivian Bendall, MP for Ilford, North, said later that they intended to press the issue to a Commons vote on Monday.

Mr Townend said: "This is a matter of principle. Nobody should be forced to contribute unless they went to. I shall certainly be pushing it to a vote."

Government's embarrassment would be compounded by the fact that statutory enforcement of contracting in is supported by the Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance, while Labour would be expected to join forces with ministers to defeat the new clause.

Mr Townend said that Mr King had been arguing that he had acted in line with the manifesto, and he had given a warning tha statutory contracting in could lead to state funding for political parties.

The MP said that the voluntary agreement which Mr King had made with the unions did not "hold water". He said that there was no power to enforce it and he recalled that although rebels has failed to win a Commons vote on secret ballots in the last Parliament, Mr King was now bringing in secret ballots with his new Bill.

Mr Bendall said: "It just happens that we are a few years ahead of the front bench on these matters." He said that the numbers signing the new clause had escalated since the weekend and they hoped to have a hundred signatures by the end of the week.

Tax cut of 9p would restore 1979 level

By Frances Williams
Economics Correspondent

A tax cut equivalent to 9p off the basic rate would be needed to restore the tax burden for a couple on average earnings to its 1978–79 level, before the *present Government came to* office, the Treasury revealed in a parliamentary answer yesterday. The figures take into account the substantial increase in the income tax threshold announced in the Budget.

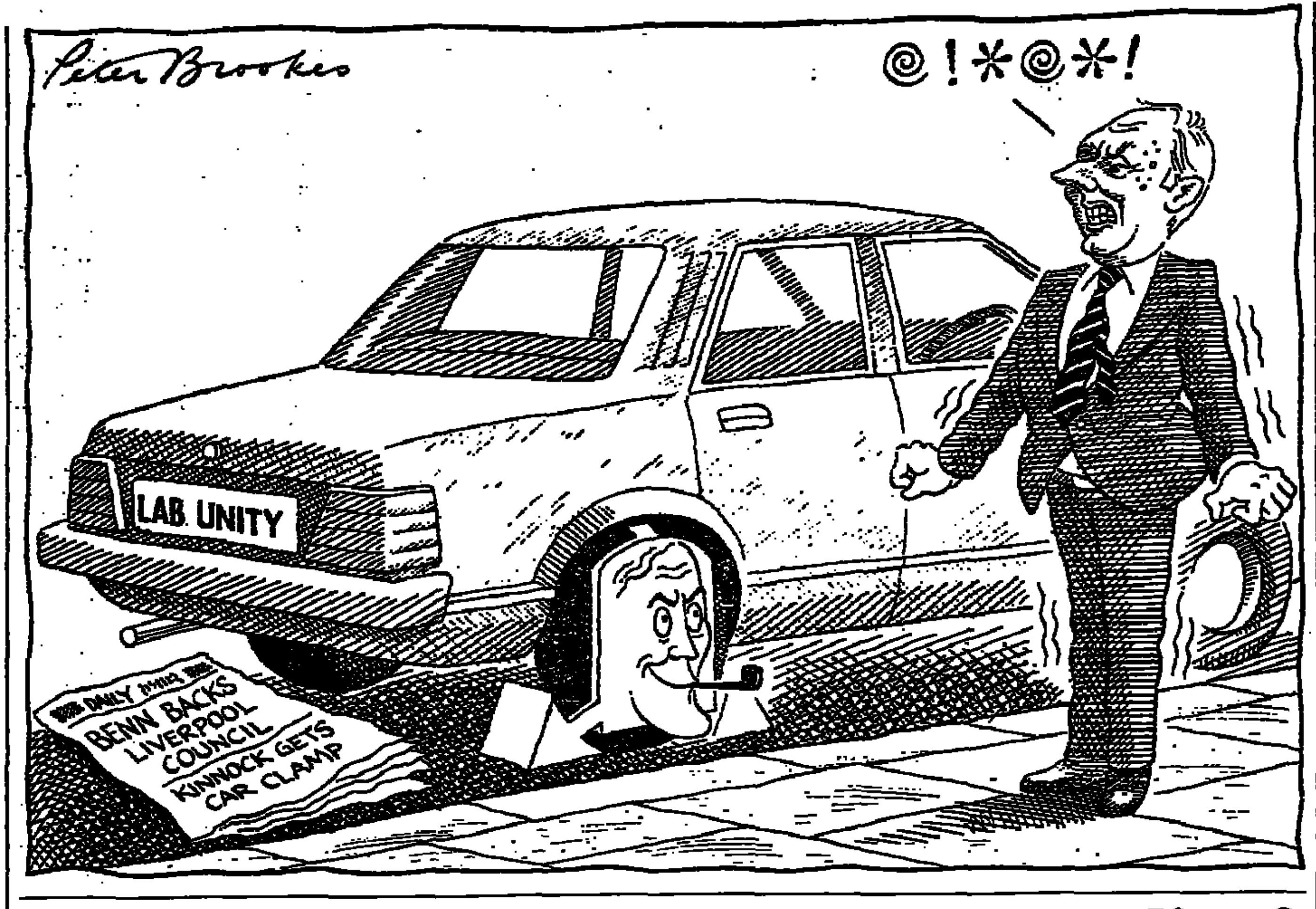
For poor households, the tax reduction would need to be bigger. To reduce payments in real terms to 1978–79 levels, after adjusting for price rises, a couple on three-quarters average earnings would need an 11.5p cut in income tax, and a coupe on one-and-a-half times average earnings a cut of 7.6p.

Smaller reductions would be needed to restore payments to 1978–79 levels as a proportion of earnings: nearly 4p on average earnings, but almost 6p for half the average wage and only 3p for one-and-a-half times the average.

INCOME TAX CUT NEEDED TO RESTORE PAYMENTS TO 1978-79 LEVELS

Earnings	Single	Married	Married + 2 children
In real terms			
75% average	10.8	11.5	8.7
average	9.0	9.0	6.8
150%	7.6	7.6	5.1
as proportion of earnings			
75% average	6.1	5.7	4.4
average	4.3	3.7	2.5
150% average	3.1	2.9	1.3

Source: Treasury



Boundaries redrawn for Europe election

By Our Polititical Editor

Only three of the 66 English European Assembly constituencies will remain unchanged if Parliament adopts the proposals of the Boundary Commission for England, published yesterday.

The commission's proposals leave unchanged the present constituencies of Hereford and Worcester, London East and London North-east. A minor boundary alteration only, involving no electors, is proposed for the Devon and the Cornwall and Plymouth constituencies.

Twenty-two constituencies are slightly altered or, in the commission's words, retain a substantial part of their present area and electorate. The remaining 39 have been substantially modified.

The commission says that substantial changes were made ineviatable because of the rise in population since the present boundaries were approved before the European election in 1979, and because of the need to align existing boundaries with the new parliamentary constituencies.

Changes in population since 1977, when the constituencies were all within 10 per cent of the average size, had increased the range to 15 per cent above and below the average.

The revised boundaries will mean that 61 of the 66 new constituencies will be within 6 per cent of the electoral quota or average of 539,155 (35,584,234 electors divided by 66).

The commissioners were not required to take account of county and London borough boundaries, as they were in their last review of parliamentary constituencies.

The paramount consideration was simply the parity of electorates, they say.

1983 Review of European Assembly Constituencies. Stationary Office. £7.65)

Tory gains forecast, page 4

Union faces rebuff over polygraph

By Peter Hennessy

The introduction of the polygraph, or lie detector, at the Government Communications *Headquarters (GCHQ)* next Monday will be raised this afternoon at the first meeting for five years of the Civil Service National Whitley Council.

Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, who will chair the meeting, may rule it out as a topic for discussion on the ground that the Civil Service unions lost their representative rights at the signals and electronic intelligence centre on March 1.

If he does, the Council of Civil Service Unions team, led by Mr William McCall, of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, will say that about *160 employees at GCHQ have* declined to relinquish their union membership despite the Government's ban.

Union leaders estimate that 50 of them could be liable for a lie detector test in the next 12 months. All staff at GCHQ are vetted and the process is renewed every five years.

From April 1, the polygraph will be used on those staff at Cheltenham undergoing the quinquennial review of their security clearance. It is part of a pilot project designed to stiffen Whitehall's defences against the KGB.

The expectation in Whitehall *is that security authorities at* Cheltenham will carefully avoid using the polygraph on any of the 160 recusants, at least in the near future. Conciliation is one *of the priorities of Mr Peter* Marychurch, director of GCHQ.

Of the 160 union members remaining at GCHQ, about 110 are based at Cheltenham and about 50 in its outstations. The union breakdown is:
Society of Civil and Public Servants 80; Civil Service *Union 50; Institution of Pro*fessional Civil Servants 30; Association of Government Supervisors and Radio Officers 30; Civil and Public Services *Association 7; and First* Division Association 2.

Government may order audit of Liverpool council's books

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

The Government is considering its first direct involvement in Liverpool's financial crisis by ordering a "special audit" of the council's books.

A team of accountants from the Audit Commission for Local Authorities, the quango which oversees councils' accounting practices and efficiency, would systematically work through town hall departments to provide a reliable picture of finances.

It is understood that ministers would prefer such relatively uncontroversial action; official advice has consistently been against dispatching the Civil Service commissioners that are provided for under emergency legislation which has been prepared for several years.

But no move will be made until after the likely budget stalemate at tomorrow's council meeting. It is likely, too, that the Government will wait to see what action is proposed by Mr Les Stanford, the Chester-based official auditor from Liverpool, who is employed by the audit commission.

Mr Stanford has given a warning to the Labour majority that the proposed budget plan would result in his applying to a *court for an order surcharging* and disqualifying councillors. But if no budget is agreed on Thursday, he will face a difficult task in identifying those responsible for the city's financial chaos.

Experts say that if no rate is agreed this week, Mr Michael Reddington, the city treasurer, has enough income from various sources (for example late repayments from 1983-84 and repayment of debts) to keep going for some time. But he might need to borrow money and it is thought that payments of interest on such borrowings would be illegal. Mr Stanford might then use them as the basis for a court action requiring the council to set a rate.

In Liverpool yesterday, 2,000 dockers agreed at a meeting to join the demonstrations planned to putp pressure on wavering Labour councillors. Six have said publicly that they will not vote for their party's budget.

When the boss is another union

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

When the bosses are trade *union leaders and union em*ployees who are on strike, life can become tense for those who have to negotiate between the brothers at war.

Such a man is Maurice Tonner, official of the white-collar union Apex, which organizes about 4,000 full-time staff employed by trade unions. *He is trying to unravel the four-*week strike by banking union employees in a redundancy dispute.

Mr Tonner gets involved in *many such disputes, as he is* ultimately responsible for the terms and conditions of Apex members at about 70 unions. Not all reach the stage of a *strike, as has happened at the* Bankng Insurance and Finance Union, (Bifu), but he says there have been "many close calls".

Negotiating on behalf of his members with a trade union leader can sometimes lead to strains in the unity of purpose encouraged by the movement.

"Occasionally we find that *general secretaries* can be a little too authoritarian in their approach. We have come to expect that from other employers but we do not expect it *from trade union general* secretaries." Mr Tonner says.

He refuses to name those unions regarded as poor employers, but he is more forthcoming on good employers, which include the Civil Service unions, the Union of Communications Workers and Nalgo, the union for town hall white-collar staff. Negotiations become Byzantine when he argues for pay increases on behalf of Apex members working for Apex.

One union staff dispute that achieved notoriety in the labour movement in the 1970s involved staff at the Amalga*mated Union of Engineering* Workers' headquarters at Peckham in London. Picketing was so successful that Mr Hugh Scanlon, who was then *the president, had to climb into* the office through a window.

No less embarrassing was the strike 15 months ago by staff at the miners' head*quarters, at that time in* London, soon after Mr Arthur Scargill became president.

There have been several disputes involving the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS), the union headed by Mr Clive Jenkins. The last official Apex strike before the present Bifu dispute, was at the ASTMS offices in north London.

"Negotiations with unions can be difficult, but because we understand each other's problems there are some advantages", Mr Tonner says. "For instance, when a union says it has no money to make a pay offer, I can understand their problems of falling membership and income."

Champagne and caviar as Concorde heads for Miami

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

British Airways' Concorde opened a new chapter yesterday with a 4,900-mile flight to Miami that began as Londoners sat down to lunch and ended as Floridans were finishing theirs.

The thrice-weekly service will provide a further boost to Concorde's already flourishing fortunes by tapping the rich business and leisure market of America's sunshine state whose slogan – "The Future is Now" – *is peculiarly appropriate to the* occasion.

Nearly a hundred passengers flew to Washington, then supersonically down to Florida, in Concorde's usual Lucullan style: champagne and canapés of caviar and pâté de foie gras; fresh salmon mayonnaise; and English lamb with Château Gruard Laroche '76 or turbot with a 1980 Mersault.

Among them were Lord Bessborough, aerospace minister in the 1970s when Concorde was getting off the ground; Britain's Ambassador in Washington, Sir Oliver Wright; and the Lieutenant-Governor of Florida, Mr Wayne Mixson.

"We are really exited about it" Mr Mixson said. "We are a trend-setting state, growing very fast – especially in high-technology industry, and Concorde will experience a big patronage from Florida and Latin America."

Captain Brian Walpole, head of BA's Concorde division who piloted the aircraft, said: "This is a milestone in the life of this unique and superb vehicle. It is British Airways' endorsement of the long-term future of Concorde after prolonged negotiations with the Government over support costs." The service would help boost BA's Concorde profits from around £10m *last year to over £12m this, he* said.

The 6½-hour flight cuts 2½ hours off the direct London-Miami service by 747 jumbo at remarkably little extra cost to the rich and famous: £2,509 return by Concorde compared with £2,160 first class by 747.

The cheapest London-Miami scheduled return is £349. From this week the service will leave Heathrow at 1pm on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday; and Miami at 9.30am on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, calling at Washington

Sale room

Smart miniatures reach giddy new heights

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

John Smart is one of the most popular eighteenth century portrait miniature painters but never has his work been bid to such giddy heights as at Christie's yesterday. A pair of miniatures of Sir Charles and Lady Helena Oakeley, 2¾in ovals framed in rose diamonds, sold for £49,680 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000).

Sir Charles was governor of Madras from 1972-94 and married his flighty young bride in India in 1777. The miniatures were painted in 1786 and are delightful, with subtle colouring and fine condition.

They were bought by a private collector from Switzerland with Leggatt, the London dealer, as the underbidder.

The auction had attracted all the keenest miniature buyers and the trend in prices was *buoyant. Although the serious* competition was reserved for the best pieces. A superb John Hoskins miniature of a gentleman, dated 1654 was bid to £17,280 *(estimate £6,000 to* £8,000)

● *Proceeds* from the sale of historic music manuscripts and documents, which are being offered at Christie's today by Mr John O'Neill McGlintock, the grandson of the second Lord O'Neill, are to be put into a special bank account, pending a High Court decision over ownership (the Press Association reports).

Mr McGlintock's sister, Mrs Annette Rose Firth, of Cecily Hill, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, claims a half share of the proceeds.

She contends that the documents, found by her brother last December at the family home, Redhall, Ballycarry, Carrikfergus, in Northern Ireland, were part of their late mother's estate.

Mr McGlintock denies the allegation and also contests that his sister has an interest in the documents, which include an unpublished Haydn Mass, autographed manuscripts by Beethoven and Mendelssohn, and letters from Schumann and Rossini.

Threat to dismiss BBC strikers

The BBC will dismiss 700 striking scenery workers today unless they give an undertaking to return to work, talks between the corporation's management and the Entertainment Trades Alliance, which represents the strikers, continued at the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) yesterday (Our Arts Correspondent writes).

BBC officials were hopeful that there might be a breakthrough in the six-week dispute but insisted that the deadline for a return to work, imposed last week, must stay.

The strike began when the BBC introduced new working schedules for its London scenery making and shifting departments. It has postponed around 40 light entertainment and drama productions.

The BBC said that the proposed changes were designed to make the scenery department more efficient.

But the union has opposed the BBC's attempt to go to arbitration without agreement to restore working practices to their previous formula.

With overtime, the annual wages of those on strike vary from £9,400 for cleaners working nights, to £14,000 for scenery painters.

Defence team chosen

The new Labour committee which will be responsible for revising and amending the party's defence policy before the next general election is expected to include several multilateralists.

The membership of the party's 12 new joint policy committees, each taking members *from both the parliamen*tary party and the national executive committee, are expected to be finalized today at meetings of the NEC at party headquarters and later on the Shadow Cabinet.

The committees are part of the new streamlined approach to policy making agreed since the election, with a new emphasis on the NEC and the Shadow Cabinet working closer together to avoid the conflicts

Soldier killed by IRA bomb

A soldier was killed yesterday when the minibus he was driving was ripped apart by a 200lb bomb detonated by Provisional IRA terrorists hiding in fields (Richard Ford writes from Belfast).

Sergeant David Ross, aged 31, was killed *instantly* in the explosion

Rate cap Bill 'will fall short'

The rate capping planned by ministers next year will not be severe enough to produce the requred savings, *Dr John* Cunningham the shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday (Our Local Government Correspondent writes).

He believed that ministers would have to fix legal ceilings for 90 councils to eliminate supposed overspending of £1,500m by councils throughout the country.

Ministers have not issued detailed capping plans for next year but they have said they expect to fix rate ceilings for 12 to 20 high-spending authorities. No official list has appeared, but ministers have indicated that the Greater London Council and Basildon District Council are certain to be capped.

The spending plans for the coming year of several London boroughs, the Inner London *Education Authority* and South Yorkshire County Council mean that they are also probable candidates for capping. All the Highest spenders are *Labour-controlled*.

Dr Cunningham based his calculation on the £1,500m cut in local council spending set out for next year in the White Paper about public spending published last month. Dr Cunningham said the rates of 90 councils would have to be capped

Dr Cunningham was speaking at a press conference organized at Westminster by the Local Government Campaign Unit, a union-backed group which is organizing this week's demonstrations against the Government plans to abolish the six English metropolitan counties and the Greater London Council.

Restoration jewel set to open

From John Young
Grantham

Belton House, the latest and by far the costliest jewel in the National Trust's collection, opens its doors to the public on Sunday.

Described as the finest Restoration house in Britain, it was acquired last year from Lord Brownlow with the aid of an £8m grant from the National *Heritage Memorial Fund*, nearly twice as much as it has given for any other purchase.

Yesterday the handsome grey house was looking in splendid condition, as journalists and photographers milled along its treasures. Under wintry skies, crocuses and snowdrops sprouted from the lawns, and avenues of still-leafless trees stood sentinel across the parkland, leading the eye to views of distant follies.

Belton, near Grantham, Lincolnshire, was built in 1686 and, although long attributed to Sir Christopher Wren, was in fact the work of William Winde. *The trust, not having to* spend large sums on repairs, has been able to buy the lion's share of the contents, including two sets of tapestries which formed part *of the original* furnishings, and all the family portraits.

Among the house's chief delights are the ornate ceilings, characteristic of its period, and the tall canopied beds, one of which was used by Queen Adelaide, the widow of William IV, who lived there for a time.

Among many rooms never seen by the public before is the state dining room, with its three huge canvasses by the seventeenth century *Dutch painter*, Melchior Hondecoeter.

Guarding the treasures of Belton yesterday (Photograph: Brian Harris).

The trust has also acquired most of the early eighteenth century furniture, a collection of Reynolds portraits and Dutch and Italian old masters, much Oriental porcelain and eighteenth and nineteenth century silver, and a fine array of leather-bound books in the library.

It is a lovely house, light, warm and welcoming. Mr Brian Lang, secretary of the heritage fund, said yesterday that the opening marked the coming of age of the fund, established four years ago.

The example of Mentmore had shown that, if the saving of *great houses were left to* governments, they would probably be lost, he said. He might have added that it was a letter in *The Times* from Lord Brownlow's cousin, drawing attention to the impending sale of Belton and dispersal of its contents, that first awoke public attention.

The house will be open from 1 pm to 5.30 pm from Wednesdays to Sundays and on Bank holidays until the end of October, apart from a period between April 24 and May 4 when it will be closed to accommodate Christies' sale of the contents not acquired by the trust. Admission costs £2 for adults, children £1.

The trust said yesterday that *it hoped for about 70,000* visitors in the first year.

Thatcher hint of curb on prescribing pill

The *Prime Minister* has dropped another hint that she favours stricter controls or even a prohibition on doctors prescribing contraceptives to girls *under 16 without their parents'* consent (Nicholas Timmins writes).

After being sent letters from three ethnic minority organiza*tions* backing Mrs Victoria Gillick's campaign on the pill, Mrs Margaret Thatcher has said the Government "has every sympathy with the feelings which lie behind the points which have been made".

In a letter to Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North, she says the correspondence has been passed to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, "who will, I am sure, take it account in reconsidering his department's guidelines".

Supporters of the existing guidance, which allows doctors in some circumstances to prescribe contraceptives to girls under 16 without their parents consent, are convinced that Mrs Thatcher will find time for a parliamentary debate

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 560 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100



مكذا من الأصل

Boundaries redrawn for Europe election

Microchip drug infuser helped childless women to have babies

Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Fifty women diagnosed as permanently infertile, some as long ago as 15 years ago, have become pregnant.

There have been 19 deliveries of healthy children and one multiple birth.

The women have responded to a new treatment for infertility which restores the levels of a hormone called LHRH in the blood.

The hormone triggers a train of biochemical events ending in ovulation. It is produced by the hypothalamus gland, which also secretes a large family of other substances associated with the body's sleeping and waking rhythm and other biological cycles.

The treatment, carried out by Professor Howard Jacobs at the Middlesex Hospital, London, and a team working with Dr Ian Robinson of the National Institute for Medical Research, is given when the biological rhythm for LHRH has gone wrong.

In those cases infertility was not caused by an absence of the hormone but by an unusual pattern of release of the substance by the gland.

Yesterday Dr Robinson explained that recent research had show that the action of some hormones had been found to be impaired if they were released in an "abnormal" pattern.

The key is not the quantity but the intervals between the times at which the agent is generated.

LHRH is most effective when secreted into the bloodstream at 90-minute intervals throughout the 24-hour day. In the infertility cases which have responded to treatment, the release was only once or twice a day.

Under the new treatment the hormone is fed into the bloodstream by a miniature drug infuser, a device about the size of the standard music cassette which is strapped to the upper arm for about four or five months.

The infuser contains a tiny plastic syringe, replaced at weekly intervals. The syringe holds the LHRH that is infused slowly by a small motor following a programme on a microchip.

The infuser was developed originally for introducing insulin into diabetics in preference to intermittent injections. The only difference between the one used of the fertility hormone and the one for insulin lies in the microchip.

The electronic controller, smaller than a postage stamp, can be chosen for any pattern corresponding to a natural cycle for hormone therapy.

Other substances are being tested. One trial is for the administration of growth hormone to treat children whose growth is retarded.

Increasing doubts over Intoximeter breath test

By Rupert Morris

Doubts increased yesterday about the legal machinery surrounding use of the Intoximeter 3000 breath-test machine as the manufacturers responded to allegations in yesterday's *Daily Express*.

Earlier concern prompted the Home Office to announce on Monday that motorists failing evidential breath tests would be able, for a six-month period from April 16, to insist on blood or urine tests. The Court of Appeal decided on the same day that the *Express* would publish confidential documents about the Intoximeter.

Mr Alan Beaven, a barrister who has specialized in defending motorists accused of drink and drive offences, said "It is outrageous that it should have taken the disclosure of these documents to persuade the Home Office to allow blood tests".

He said the amount of breath required to provide an Intoximeter sample was tested only once before the machine was put into use, and was never subsequently checked.

However, Dr Paul Williams, marketing director of the manufacturers Lion Laboratories, of Barry, South Glamorgan accused the *Daily Express* of "distortion" in its presentation of the case.

He said the newspaper had used only material that supported its own view, had failed to use any police evidence and had used technical data without any attempt to understand its scientific basis.

The Home Office, which revealed that since the Intoximeter was introduced on May 6, there had been 8,000 to 10,000 evidential breath tests a month in the United Kingdom, said it was satisfied the machines were working satisfactorily.

But the courts may have severe problems over the next few weeks dealing with motorists accused solely on the evidence of the Intoximeter.

Leading article, page 15

Poles apart: Mr John Howland, of Ospringe Kent, using stilts for hop stringing as he has done for the past 32 years. But it is a dying skill as most hop farms use poles operated from the ground to hang the string. (Photograph John Voos).

Colleges to profit from work under Joseph law

By Lucy Hodges
Education Correspondent

A new law to enable polytechnics and local authority colleges to make money from their own inventions and consultancy work was proposed yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

There has been considerable discontent because these institutions are not allowed to undertake commercial activities particularly as the Government wishes to see education responding to industry's needs.

Sir Keith told the Commons yesterday that he intended to introduce legislation freeing local authority further education establishments from this constraint.

A new law would enable ploytechnics and colleges to do consultancy work and contracted research, to exploit thier inventions, to take part in research with industry, to do routine testing and to set up advisory services.

Mr Michael Lewis, secretary of the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics, said the proposed was "very good news". Most polytechnics are not corporate bodies and are subject to the financial regulations of the organizations funding them, the local authorities.

● Sir Keith has been accused of being philistine in asking universities to review funding and shift further towards technology, science and engineering courses.

A letter from Aberdeen University says lecturers and others are saddened by the undervaluing of humanities and social sciences shown in his request.

Professor George McNicol, Aberdeen's vice-chancellor, has also told the University Grants Committee: "There could be a swing back towards the arts and social sciences as young people try to understand themselves and look for moral, cultural and religious values in a materially orientated society."

Solicitor to fight ban on advertising

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

A fighting fund was launched by a solicitor yesterday to challenge a Law Society ban on advertising.

Mr Peter Browne, of Avonmouth, Bristol, is contesting in the High Court the Society's refusal to allow him to advertise a self-help legal service, in which clients can be guided in "do-it-yourself" action.

He has won leave to bring the High Court challenge and he is now lobbying solicitors and other interested parties in the hope of raising sufficient funds to cover the first stages.

Mr Browne ran a "self-help" legal service for nine months before the Law Society said that advertising it amounted to "touting". But he contends that the no-advertising rule is unlawful as an unreasonable restraint of trade.

Under his scheme, clients were given guidance in filling in forms and writing letters where the case was not sufficiently large to justify big legal fees.

The whole question of advertising by solicitors is under review as part of the Government's proposed reforms on conveyancing. But Mr Browne says that advertising in a broader context should also be examined.

Recent steps by the Law Society allow lawyers to place small "gravestone" advertisements in local newspapers, provided that charges are not included.

Snuff sales go up after cigarette tax

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

While sales of other tobacco products have declined, and cigarette manufacturers are cutting back on production capacity, Britain's snuff makers are boosting production.

Sales were up nearly 5 per cent last year, according to the latest returns of the Society of Snuff Grinders, Blenders and Purveyors. A big jump in exports more than offset a marginal decline of barely 1 per cent in the British market.

Exports account for nearly half the production of Britain's five snuff manufacturers, two of whose grinding mills are in Sheffield and the other three in Kendal.

The biggest of the snuff makers is J. and H. Wilson, a Sheffield subsidiary of the Imperial Group. The other manufacturers, including the other Sheffield-based company Wilson and Co (Sharrow), are still small independent operations.

With British snuff production at 531,000 lbs last year, British snuff takers sniffed away about 270,000 lbs in about 500 blends.

Blends fall into three main categories: plain, the largest sector; mentholated and medicated snuffs; and aromatic snuffs, made with a variety of oils such as the attar of roses, which is proving the big growth area as more smokers turn to what was once the most elegant way to take tobacco.

One advantage of snuff is that unlike other tobacco products it carries no excise duty. Health warnings on snuff containers have also been ruled unnecessary.

Snuff costs from about 70p to £1.60 an ounce with prices showing little of the sharp acceleration seen particularly with cigarettes.

There are signs this year of a substantial increase in snuff sales in Britain, particularly since the Budget tax increases earlier this month on tobacco, which pushed up the price of a pack of 20 cigarettes by 10p.

Sales increases of between 8 and 9 per cent are reported by Mr Vivian Rose, a director of G Smith and Sons, the London-based snuff blenders and retailers.

His company's sales were slightly up last year against the overall trend. He said: "Things like a miners' strike can have a big effect in some areas when workers who take snuff because of job conditions temporarily use less.

"Particularly since the Budget we have had many people deciding to try snuff taking as an alternative to smoking".

UK snuff sales in lbs including exports

	lbs
1979	535,000
1980	550,000
1981	546,000
1982	507,000
1983	531,000

Source: Society of Snuff Grinders, Blenders and Purveyors

Battle for video rental market

Britain's television rental shops are to be offered a new model video recorder from Philips, based on Japanese technology in preference to the company's own.

The new machines, designed on the VHS system developed by the Japan Victor Company, are an attempt by the European electronics giant to regain some of the video recorder market lost to the Japanese, particularly through the rental market. The rental outlets supply more than 40 per cent of the six million recorders in British homes and have helped the VHS system to control about 72 per cent of the rental and retail trade.

While Philips's recorders account for 20 per cent of European video sales, in Britain they have only 4 per cent. The Sony Betamax system has the remainder left after the VHS share.

Mrs Thatcher searching for the front in the Ford prototype and (above) a model of the All-Purpose Vehicle.

Thatcher is troubled by car of the future

By Robin Young

The car of the future, with the front which the Prime Minister complains is invisible, was the centre of attention at the Design Centre in Haymarket, London, yesterday when the Drive Forward exhibition opened to the public.

At a preview on Monday night Mrs Margaret Thatcher told Ford it would have to redesign its Ghia All-Purpose Vehicle (APV) for her. "I do not like it", she said. "I like to see where the front of the car is".

The APV's rounded front end achieves a drag coefficient of only 0.33, but neither that nor a 60° windscreen would reconcile Mrs Thatcher. Mr David Burgess-Wise, of Ford, tried to convince Mrs Thatcher that she could not really see the furthest extremities of her Jaguar either, but he was forced to admit: "You cannot win them all".

Mr Alan Jackson, Ford designer, said part of the design philosophy was that in a collision the impact should be as friendly as possible.

There are few modern cars on which the driver, whatever his or her height, can see the front, if the front is taken to mean the furthest forward projection.

Another trend in the exhibition to which Mrs Thatcher raised objection was the use of greater window areas. Cars would overheat, she said, and become more suitable for growing tomatoes than travelling in.

Miss Frances Mann, the exhibition researcher, said yesterday: "In fact the greenhouse effect will not be as great as the Prime Minister fears. The mouldings are likely to be polycarbons, not glass, and they could be tinted pink, orange or even blue".

Boy aged 15 guilty of murder

A boy aged 15 was ordered to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure after he was convicted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of the "mindless and motiveless" murder of Aaron Lee, aged 8, of Streatham, south London.

The boy was described by psychiatrists as a loner with problems of reasoning who "fantasized about violence". He spent hours reading stories on witchcraft and watching horror films on television.

The court was told that Aaron Lee was stabbed 20 times with a dagger on waste ground beside the London to Brighton rail line at Streatham last September. Commuters on a passing train saw the incident.

Inquest on gun dealer opens

Mr John Longstaff, the arms dealer, was under investigation by civilian and ministry of defence police when he was found dead with his throat cut onboard a British Airways flight from Frankfurt last week, the West London coroner was told yesterday.

Mr Longstaff, aged 36, of Pudsey, West Yorkshire, had arranged to meet investigating officers at Leeds airport. The inquest was adjourned for three weeks.

Boat carpenter wins £900

Mr Peter Divers, a carpenter, was dismissed after failing to fit special supports in two cabin cruisers with the result that the decks moved when the vessels stopped.

Yesterday Mr Divers, aged 36, of Wolverley, Hereford and Worcester, was granted £900 by an industrial tribunal for unfair dismissal by Dawncraft Cruisers, of Stourport-on-Severn. He complained he was not instructed about the supports and was dismissed without warning.

Nest scheme

Artificial bird bests are being built by the Welsh Water Authority as part of a £3m flood defence scheme for Bridgend, South Wales. Nesting pipes are being incorporated into the stone facings

PARLIAMENT March 27 1984

Government has to trust Civil Service

SECRETS ACT

No Government could carry on its business unless it could trust those in the Civil Service who had charge of security documents to keep those documents to themselves, Mrs **Margaret Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said during question time exchanges in the Commons.

She was responding to one of a number of questions concerning Miss Sarah Tisdall, the Foreign Office Clerk, imprisoned for six months for leaking a Government document on cruise missiles to *The Guardian* newspaper.

***Mr Terence Lewis** (Worsely, Lab)* began the exchanges, by saying: The savage sentence meted out to Miss *Tisdall contrasts sharply with the* establishment cover-up (Loud Conservative interruption)

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill): He must be aware that this case is subjudice.

***Mr Lewis:** Would the Prime* Minister agree the time has arrived when sentencing policy ought to be reviewed *in view of cases that affect* national security as against those that do not?

Mrs Thatcher: No. I believe sentencing is a matter for the courts.

We are in certain cases, proposing *next year to introduce the right to* appeal against sentences but it would not apply to the particular *case. It would only be where it was* thought that the sentence was unduly low and would be guidance *for the future.*

Mr Cranley Onslow (Woking, C): Does Mrs Thatcher think any *government of this country could* effectively carry on its business if the Official Secrets Act were so amended as to leglise the wilful betrayal of trust?

Any civil servant of any grade who supposes *himself or herself to* be the victim of a conflict of loyalties should either ask to be transferred to non-sensitive work or resign from the service. (Conservative cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: I agree with him. I note that when the matter came up during the lifetime of the last government, during June 1976, the then Prime Minister said: "There must be absolute confidence that papers and discussions that take place are kept within the circle to whom they are given."

"The then Leader of the Opposition said "We fully share his *view about the gravity of the matter.* It is essential that the confidentiality of documents should be ensured."

He was right and I was right in supporting him. (Conservative cheers).

Mr David Winnick *(Walsall North,* Lab): How can she justify imprisonment under Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act which was *described by* the present Home Secretary (Mr Leon Brittan) six years ago as *indefensible?*

Mrs Thatcher: The Franks report on the Official Secrets act was *published in 1972.* A Labour Government held office from 1974 to 1979 and did not over five years *introduce legislation. They could* have done so but they did not.

In 1979 we introduced legislation *which did not find favour in the* House. We have no intention of introducing further legislation at *present.*



Lewis: Savage sentence and cover-up.

Mr Edward Leigh (Gainsborough and Horncastle, C): Is she aware of *the internal CND document on* cruise which instructs members to render the deployment of cruise *missiles militarily useless* by informing the world, including our enemies, exactly where they are sited?

This confirms the impression of many Conservatives MPs that *Lenin's willing dupes in the CND* are now doing the CND's dirty work for them.

Mrs Thatcher: That is correct. They are making a fundamental attack of the defence, security and liberty of our country, including liberties enabling them to have freedom of speech.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L): The country would be far better governed if a Freedom of Information Act could protect those areas which ought to be in the public domain and leave the law to protect fewer secrets.

Mrs Thatcher: There are certain matters which it is vital to keep confidential, both for security and commerical reasons.

Parliament today

***Commons** (2.30):* Rates Bill, *completion of remaining stages.* **Lords** (2.30): Debate on White Paper on *training for jobs.*

Authorities too slow in contracting out

PM's QUESTIONS

Only 23 contracts involving the privatization of local authority *services had been completed.* **Mrs Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said during commons questions. *Although they resulted in annual* savings of £7m she said the progress in privatization had been disap*pointing.*

Mr David Atkinson, (Bournemouth, East, C), who raised the issue, had asked if she was satisfied with the progress being made by local authorities to privatize services.

Mrs Thatcher: No. I am still dissatisfied with the progress which local authorities are making in seeking greater value for money by putting their services to the test of competition.

We are continuing to study what measures can be taken to speed up the process.

Mr Atkinson: There is ample evidence from those Conservative *councils that have had the guts and* visions to put out their services to private enterprise that this is the *most positive form of capping rates.*

Will she consider introducing legislation which will oblige all local *authorities to compare costs of* existing services with those provided by tender by the private *sector?*

Mrs Thatcher: I agree there are great oppportunities in reducing expenditure by submitting contracts to private competition. So far progress has been disappointing.

I hope we can be much more successful in persuading local authorities to go out to private competition. I shall be reluctant to commit us to legislation because it would be a very technical measure to put before the House.

Howe under the same instructions

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, explained in the Commons that Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, was *under the same instructions* as she imposed upon herself in negotiations over Britain's contributions to the European Community.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, had raised during question time Sir Geoffrey Howe's visit to Brussels for the meeting of EEC foreign ministers.

In his negotiations (asked Mr **Kinnock**) is the Foreign Secretary *under instructions to ensure* that any agreement he makes will contain a provision for rebates to *the UK that are sufficient to offset* the additional £675m in contributions which would arise if our *own resources subscriptions were to* go up from 1 per cent to 1.4 per cent?

Mrs Thatcher: He is instructed, if I may use . . . (prolonged laughter). He is under the same instructions as I imposed upon myself.

Police doing superb job over pickets

The police were doing a superb job enabling miners to go through to their place of work, Mrs Margaret *Thatcher, the Prime Minister,* said in the Commons.

Answering a question by Mr **David Ashby** (North West Leicestershire, C) on picketing, **Mrs Thatcher** said: We are totally and utterly against intimidation of people who are trying to go about their law abiding business.

Minister unmoved by Conservative demands to amend Rates Bill

RATE CAPPING

The local authority associations *remained* united in their total opposition to the Rates Bill. **Dr John Cunningham**, chief Opposition *spokesman on the environment* (Copland, Lab), said in opening in the Commons the report stage of the *Bill* which empowers the Government to limit the rates made and precepts issued by local authorities.

Moving a new clause he said its purpose was to prevent the Government having three different systems or amounts of money under which it could control the budgets of local authorities which might be designated under the Bill's provisions. The new clause sought to ensure that the highest of the three figures should be used for all purposes.

It was important to try to find out what was in the Government's thinking for the future about the fact that it intended to use three different spending norms for individual authorities.

It was questionable whether a government should set a norm for a local authority at all and doubtful whether two norms was sensible or practicable. To have three different norms was surely stupid in the extreme. Yet that would be the situation if this Bill went ahead in its present form.

The local authority associations also remained united in their oppositions to the Government's intention that grant-related expenditure should be the central test on which it based its decisions to apply the measures contained in the Bill. Such a test was rejected *by both* previous Secretaries of State for the Environment in this administration. The present Secretay for State has *reneged on persistent and numerous* assurances to the House and local *government on that key issue and* central point.

The new clause also dealt with expenditure guidance issued by the Secretary of State using his powers under the Local Government Finance Act 1982. This expenditure guidance had been enforced by massive grant penalties and was clearly central government's view of how much a local authority should be spending.

The Government had not only consistently reduced the resources available to councils but also confused and unsettled local government to the point where the working relationship between central and local government was worse than at any time in living memory.

The Government, in seeking to impose its will centrally on local government, was not concerned about the level of services but with its overwhelming desire to cut local government expenditure for the sake of cutting it.

The Opposition did not dissent from the Secretary of State's objective in seeking greater efficiency and improved performance from local authorities, but this was not the way to achieve it. The Government was forcing indiscriminate cuts on those people entrusted with the responsibility of providing services as important as education, the police, fire services and services to the elderly and the chronically sick and disabled.

The Government's policies were undermining the vital services, and causing further disadvantage in urban areas and inner cities and particularly to black and ethnic minorities.

This was not an improvement in efficiency but a widening of the gap between the haves and the have nots.

The use of the powers in the Bill *to control the budgets of a small* number of authorities was unlikely to produce any significant net *savings to the Treasury in terms of* public expenditure.

The new clause would prevent ministers having three different ways by which to tax local authorities' performance.

Mr Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C) said this attempt to determine in Whitehall the needs of every local authority would not work. It was just as hopeless as when, during the last war, *an attempt* had been made to introduce ligislation to measure rhubarb leaves and the translucency *of eggs (laughter).*

This Bill (he said) will neither work efficiently nor work with justice. *Nor will it contribute one iota to the general good of the* country as a whole.

Public spending was *running at* about £126bn a year. On the best estimates of the Government itself.



Prentice: Listen to mass of expert opinion.

the rate capping provisions would save £300m out of £12bn in expenditure. *But even that was* doubtful.

Acts of Parliament which were basically *unworkable* and so confused that hardly anybody could understand them would not pro*duce a more efficient or cheaper* system of government. The new clause at least tried to bring a *measure of clarity to the situation.*

If Parliament (he said) is to give to the Secretary of State such *sweeping* powers as are *now* envisaged to pick on one authority or another we should define those powers *with much greater clarity.*

Nobody objects to the limitation of the rate burden or, where *appropriate, to a reduction in the* total percentage of Government grant, or to measures which bring *greater efficiency or bring pressure* on local authorities which are spending unwisely. But to make general, *sweeping observations that* such a Bill as this will make some dramatic reduction in public *expenditure is absurd.*

The only way to deal with the sort of problems they were discussing today was to have a thorough restructuring of local government finance.

Indeed (he continued) one of my objections to the Bill is that it dodges the whole issue of local government finance and the real necessity to reduce the rate burden on domestic and non-domestic ratepayers.

This Bill concentrates government power to an unparalleled extent since local authorities were created. It alters *seriously the whole* relationship between central and local government. What we are considering in the *light* of the Government's White Paper is the so called doctrine of the unitary state and the principles of parliamentary supremacy.

He hoped that before Conservative MPs supported this measure they would bear in mind that they would be doing so contrary to every precept of the rule of law for which the Conservative Party had ever stood.

Mr John Cartwright (Woolwich, SDP) said he supported the new clause because it reminded MPs that the Bill had not appeared out of a vacuum.

The general view in the committee which considered the Bill was that the grant-related expenditure system was rough justice, but the only system available based on a local authority's need to spend.

Given its past record (he added) I understand why the Government needs a belt and braces. But to need belt, braces and a stout piece of string is going a bit far.

The new clause would go a long way towards simplifying the system and introducing an element of natural justice.

Mr Reginald Prentice (Daventry, C) said the Bill was bad and would not become an *acceptable* by *any* amendment.

The Government should listen to the *mass of expert criticism,* particularly from Conservative councils.

He hoped that the Government would be encouraged to make minimum use of the powers. Any use of those *powers* was potentially damaging because it opened a new chapter in the relationship between *central and local government.* For many years, governments of all parties had had powers *in* that direction but had relied on persuasion, using carrot and stick apparatus.

To take the new step of laying down maximum expenditure of local authorities changed the consitutional relationship. If those powers were pursued widely and used more and more every year, it would be the beginning of the end to local democracy.

He supported the new clause because the unamended Bill would be the beginning of the end for local *democracy.*

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selly Oak, C) who said he supported the new clause and would be voting against the Bill, said the way it was decided how much local *authorities should get* was so unjust and so easy for some to comply with and so difficult for others that there was no sense of *natural justice.*

How is it (he said) that we have sublimely to lie back and say this country cannot find a better way for local taxation to be raised? This is the only country that needs these *draconian powers* and we are the cradle of democracy.

Disraeli said that centralism was *the death blow of freedom.* And so it is. We cannot expect local authorities to play the game if we do not *play the game with them.*

The present system was a Russian roulette and determined that the needs of old people in Bournemouth were the same as those in Aston in Birmingham. This led to iniquities and a sense of unfairness.

We are not being disagreeable (he went on) or fractious or disappointed. This Bill in not going to save expenditure and it is *not even* going to work.

Mr Chris Smith (Islington South and Finsbury, Lab) said every single borough in inner London, whether Labour of Conservative, was spending 16 per cent above its grant related assessment figure for social services. It could not possibly be that every authority was wrong and the Department of Environment was right.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C) said this was bad law in the making. It flew directly in the face of Tory tradition and practice.

One of his most unhappy recent experiences was to talk with the elected councillors of South Staffordshire. Tories almost to a man and woman. He had never seen *them more sadly united against* the Government and its approach to local government.

This was a classic case of exciting expectations that could not be fulfilled. People thought that *something was being done about* the rates. In fact the central issue of the rates was being fudged.

Any true Tory who considered himself to be a member of the party of Disraeli, who was against too much government interference and for the freedom of individual and the balance of the relationship between central and local government, must pause and say: "Is this mass of technical nonsense which is going to save at the very most a tiny sum, worth supporting or is it to be confined to the dustbin?"

Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said grant related expenditure (GRE) was a *yardstick* for use in the distribution by Government of the block grant. It had always been *accepted* that these were not expenditure targets.

The purpose of the individual *targets was to achieve the reduction* in the level of local authority expenditure which the Secretary of State thought necessary having regard to general economic conditions.

Substituting the higher of target or GRE would have a significant effect on the block grant. It would significantly reduce rates of authorities with targets most above GRE by increasing their grants.

The effect of the new clause would be to give more money to the extravagant authorities and, as a consequence, less money to those who had been more responsible.

Effectively expenditure levels set under the Rates Bill could not be exceeded by local authorities. *Precisely because these levels could* not be exceeded the Government had provided in the Bill for a *redetermination procedure* which allowed the Secretary of State to take into account the particular *circumstances of individual local* authorities.

Mr Jack Straw, an Opposition spokesman on the environment (Blackburn, Lab), said if 20 or so authorities were rate capped their services would suffer badly but, as some Conservative MPs had said, for all that suffering the Government would still not get its savings.

There was no way in which the Government could achieve the savings postulated in the White Paper by making cuts in the hit list authorities.

The new clause was rejected by 301 votes to 193 – Government majority, *108.*

'Hansard' forced to do things by half

COMMITTEES

An attempt by a person in the Lord Chancellor's office to get a proof copy of a *Hansard* report of a special standing committee taking evidence on a *Bill*, misfired and led to publication of a full report of the committee's proceedings being delayed.

The matter was raised in the Commons by **Mr Merlyn Rees** (Leeds, South, Lab), chairman of the committee, and the **Speaker** said that he had inquired into the matter

Mr Rees said that he raised as a point of order a matter of concern to him, as chairman of the special committee set up to take evidence under the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill.

The matter (he said) gives rise to a complaint against someone in the Lord Chancellor's Department, as a result of which, on March 23, *Hansard* printers dealing with the report were stopped from dealing with it by someone in the Lord Chancellor's department.

This was a serious matter. It was relevant that on Thursday, valuable evidence had been given by Lord Scarman to the committee, and by Sir John Arnold, president of the Family Division, both written and oral, and both of which were to be published.

The first I knew of it (he said) was when a letter was given to me this morning, addressed to the clerk, from Mr Kenneth Morgan, Editor of the *Official Report.*

It said: "My attention has been drawn to a half report of the third sitting of your committee on March 23. This half report was made available, I understand, as a result of pressure from the Lord Chancellor's Department late on Thursday and the full version was not available until today.

"As a result of this episode I have directed the printers under no circumstances to repeat this exercise and to take instructions on the publication of standing committee reports only from my office. To proceed otherwise is a recipe for disaster."

Mr Rees continued: I simply say that it is not easy for a printer, whom I believe is a subcontractor, these days, if he gets a call from the Lord Chancellor's office. You never know who is talking.

In our sitting, there was a conflict between what the Lord Chancellor said in the House of Lords and what the President of the Family Division said to us on Thursday.

He was concerned that someone from the Lord Chancellor's Office had got on direct to the printer, and not through *Hansard.* This was a new committee which depended on evidence. Government departments had to be told that they did not control *Hansard. Hansard* was responsible to the House and to no one else.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, Solicitor General, said that he had made *inquiries into what had happened.*

The committee had been told that there was disparity on a particular *issue between what the President of* the Family Division had said and a speech by the Lord Chancellor. The *president had already undertaken to* submit a further written memorandum. So that the matter could be *dealt with in that memorandum,* he had asked that a copy of Thursday's *Hansard* be obtained as soon as *possible.*

The printers undertook to try to obtain proof copies from the *subcontractors.*

I am sorry (he said) that this initiative of mine, taken solely in *the interest of putting the fullest* information before the committee at its final meeting, led to a delay in *Hansard appearing.*

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill): The House will accept the explanation. I have looked into the matter to ensure that nothing of the kind happens again.

Lyceum Club sold to Post Office

LIVERPOOL

The Government has sold the Lyceum Club, Liverpool, to the Post Office for £320,000, **Mr Patrick Jenkin**, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in a Commons written answer. The contract of sale included, he said, conditions requiring that the principal historic and architectural features of the building should be restored and preserved.

He added: The Post Office have indicated that they will incorporate these features in a scheme of rehabilitation and conversion involving a variety of uses connected with their operations, including a Branch Post Office and philatelic retail centre.

I am pleased that this important, historic Liverpool landmark has found a new owner, and will soon have a new lease of life which will allow the public the fullest opportunity of enjoying and appreciating its outstanding qualities.

Built in 1801-2 to designs by Thomas Harrison the neo-classical building, home of the first public lending library, is listed Grade II. It was bought by the Government in 1980 to save it from redevelopment proposals involving its demolition. The Post Office intends to restore and convert it to a variety of uses.

Veterans going to Normandy

Mr John Standley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said in a Commons written reply that he expected to be able to indicate shortly *whether* his department would be able to offer assistance to Second World War veterans planning to go to Normandy for the fortieth anniversary celebrations of the D Day landings.

He understood that several thousand veterans had made arrangements with commercial tour companies

Right to buy

An Opposition proposal might result in almost all one or two apartment houses in Scotland being excluded from the right to buy. **Lord Gray of Contin**, Minister of State, Scottish Office, said during the committee stage of the Tenants' Rights, Etc (Scotland) Amendment Bill in the House of Lords.

A new clause, moved by **Lord Ross of Marnock** (Lab) sought to prevent the sale of council houses which the local authority usually let to elderly people.

The new clause was rejected by 113 votes to 94

Study into provision of oxygen equipment

Asked to encourage and support British companies to develop and expand the production and use of British-designed oxygen equipment, **Mrs Margaret Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said in a written reply in the Commons: A number of companies already sell oxygen *concentrators in this country, some* of which are manufactured in the United Kingdom.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of State for Health, has recently commissioned from the accountants, Arthur Andersen and Company, a study of the arrangements for the supply of domiciliary oxygen. We will decide in the light of the results of the study the extent to which oxygen concentrators should replace the existing arrangements for the provision of existing therapy to domiciliary patients.

Digitalization

***Mr Kenneth Baker**, Minister for* Information Technology, in a Commons written reply, said: BT *aim, under their accelerated pro*gramme of digitalization, to have two million digital exchange lines in *service by 1986, double their* original target.

This will include 30 trunk units and 1,200 System X local exchanges. They intend to have completed the full digitalization of the trunk network by the end of the decade.

Single parents criticize divorce reform proposals

By Richard Evans

The Government's divorce reform proposals were widely *criticized by three separate* pressure groups, representing single parents and women, which appeared before a special Commons committee yesterday.

Gingerbread, a national association of one-parent families with about 13,000 members, said the "whole focus" of the Matrimonial and Familiy Proceedings Bill was wrong. Together with the National Council for One Parent Families and Rights of Women, it condemned the proposed *changes on maintenance* law and the effect those would have on children of divorced couples.

The Bill, introduced by the Lord Chancellor in the Lords, would allow divorce after 12 months of marriage and so remove the present three-year discretionary time ban. It would also put an end to a former *wife's so-called "meal ticket for* life".

A special standing committee is taking evidence from interested parties on the most contentious pieces of the proposed legislation before the Bill is examined line by line by MPs next month.

In written evidence, Gingerbread said the Bill concentrated on the battle of the sexes – between former husbands and wives. "The real issue is not *between men and women, it is* about children and the balance of financial responsibility *between the custodial and* non-custodial parent."

The presure group said the Bill failed to give proper protection to one-parent families and that many would face a cut in income because of the new maintenance proposals.

It criticized the failure to give real priority to children and said the added emphasis being placed on the conduct of parties during marriage would lead to *bitterness and hardship for the* families involved.

"The whole idea of the level of maintenance being affected by the conduct of the parties conflicts with principle of putting the children first. If it is the custodial parent who is *deemed to have* been 'at fault' which principle – children first or misconduct punished? – is to be paramount."

Miss Robbi Robson for Gingerbread said: "It is impossible to separate the living standard of the children from that of the caring parent. If the parent is forced to live in self-sufficient poverty, it is the children who will be forced to suffer, too."

The National Council for One Parent Families said much-*needed impovements in matri*monial legislation and procedure were needed in order to achieve child-centred divorce.

"Our concern about the Bill is that, although it purports to put children first, in reality it could achieve the reverse."

The council said the *Bill*'s two main aims – the primary importance of children and restriction of some maintenance rights of women – were in *conflict.*

In the most outspoken attack on the Bill, Rights of Women said the proposals on maintenance reform were a pernicious irrelevance.

"The most objectionable assumptions are the implicit labelling of women who receive maintenance as 'alimony drones' and the insulting proposition that women treat marriage as a 'meal ticket."

Tories 'will win 58 Euro seats'

The Conservative Party will win 58 of the 78 seats in Britain in the European elections in June if the nation votes as it did at the general election last year, it was predicted yesterday (our Political Reporter writes).

For a 43.5 per cent share of the votes it would get a 74.4 share of the seats, further exaggerating the distortion in the general election results, according to a study by Mr Michael Steed, of Manchester University, released by the Campaign for Fair Votes.

Mr Steed predicts that the Conservatives would be given an even greater advantage of seats over votes than they have at Westminster. For a 28.3 per cent share of the votes the Labour Party would win 24.4 per cent of 19 seats, while for a 26.1 per cent of the votes the *Liberal SDP Alliance would win* only one seat.

The forecast was published as the campaign announced that it had collected 600,000 signatures for a national petition calling for a referendum on proportional representation.

Mr Roy Jenkins, former leader of the Social Democrats and the campaign chairman, said that it was receiving a positive response



Henry Moore at St Paul's for the installation of his sculpture (right).

St Paul's gets Moore statue

Mr Henry Moore, the *sculptor, confined to a wheel*chair by illness, visited St Paul's Cathedral yesterday to see his statue "Mother and Child" installed in the North Choir Aisle.

Mr Moore, aged 85, had presented the seven foot high, two-ton white marble *sculpture* to the Cathedral as a gift. It represents the Virgin and Child.

He travelled from his home in Hertfordshire to be present at the installation and afterwards declared himself "very *satisfied*".

The Dean of St Paul's, Dr Alan Webster, had been trying *for some years to persuade him to* create a sculpture for a cathedral, because there are few great twentieth century sculptures in British cathedrals.

"We have been very backward in this country in enabling artists to give of their *art", Dr Webster said.* "Today the religious spirit needs the artists to be strong in a world where we are tempted to materialism."

The last great work of art given to St Paul's was Holman Hunt's painting "The Light of the World" in the last century.

For Mr Moore, yesterday was the culmination of a two-year *task.*

After a meeting with the cathedral's davisers and craftsmen he worked through much of the night and for several days to *make his first maquette.*

The model went to Tuscany, where Italian masons who have worked with Mr Moore for years, carved the work in *travertine marble. It* was brought to Britain late last year and he supervised the final touches.

Mother and child is one of *the favourite recurring themes* in Mr Moore's work.

Climbing warnings may stop

By Ronald Faux

A warning service which alerts hill walkers and climbers *in the Lake District* of severe weather may be abandoned for safety reasons.

Mr Joe Boothroyd, chairman of the Lake District Mountain *Accident Association,* said that far from staying away from the hills when a warning had been issued, some enthusiasts regarded the danger as a challenge and deliberately set out when they had been told conditions were bad.

"It has reached a point where the National Park wardens who *have been giving out warnings* this winter now wonder whether they are counter-productive", Mr Boothroyd said.

The weekend after accidents *in which three people died* and three were injured, there was a rush of people to the area. "I do not believe they were being goulish, they were simply *wanting* to pit themselves against that mountain in dangerous conditions. They seem to believe it *will* not happen to them", he said.

Last year, was the worste on record for mountain accidents in the Lake District. The association's report, published yesterday, said 21 people had *been killed*, and 128 injured in the area. The 15 volunteer rescue teams tackled 182 incidents, 35 more *than* the previous highest total.

Helicopters and mountain rescue teams were searching in the Cairngorm mountains yesterday for Mr Eamonn McCarol, aged 22, a student *from Glasgow,* missing since the weekend. Less than three months ago, he fell 700ft down *Ben Nevis* and escaped with bruises.

£2m research cuts

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Medical Research Council has decided how to distribute cuts of *£2m* next year among its research units

There are 60 groups entirely funded by the council, and they will not receive the usual increases next year to take account of inflation. In addition, their budgets for recurrent expenses will be reduced.

There will be little money to buy new equipment, but directors of those units will be free to *freeze staff* vacancies to release funds to support their general budgets.

The council also supports more than 1,400 project grants in universities. Some savings will be made by cuting back on the increases which are usually allowed on *running expenses to* take account of inflation.

Mental health care: 3

Doctor protests over cost of hospital cash cuts

The closure of up to one third of Britain's mental hospitals will, in the eyes of many professionals, simply add to the burden of caring for former patients which the community has already shown itself unwilling to bear. COLIN HUGHES concludes a series by looking at the debate surrounding the rundown of one London hospital out of six scheduled for closure.

Friern hospital in north London is a microcosm of the debate over the closure and rundown of mental hospitals which have aroused anxiety over the policy of community care for the mentally ill.

It is among six London hospitals which are the first of 30 expected to be gradually closed by the Government over the next 10 years.

Fifteen years ago the impressive Victorian building housed 2,000 patients. That has been cut to 800, and last July the North-east Thames Regional Health Authority, announce that beds would be cut to 200 by 1994.

Psychiatrists at Friern, including Dr Patrick Campbell, a consultant, have unusually "gone public" in their protest. "My fear is that many of those already discharged have disappeared on to the streets, or live in appalling squalor because of community neglect. Now the hard rump are to go, and I cannot see any will to prevent the same thing happening to them."

As Friern runs down, the £12m annual running cost will be transferred to the district health authorities, Bloomsbury, Islington, Haringey, and Hampstead, and the social services departments within its catchment area.

Dr Campbell believes it will cost three times as much to provide high-care homes for the most disturbed patients at Friern. He claims that the health authority is basing its assessment of needs on the average incidence of mentally ill people in Britain, when London's rate is three times higher because so many vagrants drift in to the capital.

"Awful though it is, this place does provide some protection against the deficiencies of the service outside," he says.

In practice the transfer of responsibility is being frustrated by friction between the multiplied responsible authorities. Professional rivalries and buck-passing are being built into a service that demands cooperation, according to Dr John McArthy, a Richmond Fellowship officer for hostel provision, who has been trying in vain to persuade the authorities to invovle voluntary groups in providing new homes.

Dr Malcolm Weller, also a Friern Consultant points to the present three-year waiting list. "At current rates of developing community care it will take 40 years to provide for the people who have already discharged, never mind those who are supposed to go over the next ten."

The regional health authority's answer is double funding. Friern will continue to receive resources to extend its halfway house rehabilitation centre, reputedly among the world's best, and to maintain its other services while equivalent funds are passed over to the district and local authorities.

"Its planned chaos," Mrs Pamela Jenkinson, an adviser on Friern and other closures to the National Schizophrenia Fellowship, says. "The Government sees this as a perfect opportunity to save money. They are using the goodwill over community care to implement cuts."

Other Friern defenders, such as consultant Dr Julian Leff, insist on maintaining optimism. "This has to be seen as a large scale experiment which has been going on for many years with some degree of success." If facilities are not provided then doctors should refuse to release them, but the principle must not be sacrificed.

Dr Campbell remains sceptical. "The history of mental health as been a series of scandals. The last was overcrowding and poor conditions. This is the next one, and it's going to get worse."

Price cuts in petrol may offset Budget rise

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

Petrol price increases caused by the Budget could be wiped out by a new wave of price cuts.

Esso has given financial support to dealers in the North-west, Bristol and South Wales allowing cuts at the pumps of 3p a gallon.

The Budget increased petrol prices by 5p a gallon five weeks after Esso cut prices nationally by 4p. Pump prices now average 184.1p for four-star.

Esso's initiative has reduced the price at selected sites to 181p and the other companies are preparing to match those prices as well as introducing promotion campaigns.

Esso has renewed dealer support because supermarket chains are marketing petrol aggressively.

Smaller independent marketing companies have bought petrol on the Rotterdam spot market at around $282 a tonne. At that price profit can still be made at a pump price of 180p.

BP Oil, which yesterday announced profits on last year's petrol and oil sales of £53m, compared with a £39m loss in 1982, launches a £2m promotion today offering prizes of between 50p and £20,000.

The campaign comes after Shell's "Make Money" campaign which has increased sales at its filling stations by an estimated 20 per cent.

Realities of El Salvador's election

How voters were left in the dark

From Alan Tomlinson
San Salvador

"Whoever wins will have to adjust himself to the realities of El Salvador's social, political and military realities," remarked Lieutenant-Colonel Domingo Monterrosa as we sat at dinner in a restaurant opposite his barracks in the provincial capital of San Miguel on the eve of Sunday's presidential elections.

We ate and talked in darkness because the guerrillas had sabotaged the town's electricity supplies. Then suddenly the lights came on again and soon lorry-loads of the colonel's troops drove past, cheering their success in restoring the power supply so promptly. They were barely out of sight when the lights went out again.

The colonel seemed pleased with his latest offensive which, he said, had pushed the rebels back into their strongholds to make voting possible in many previously rebel-held towns.

As we were driven back to our hotel a shot rang out. "Colonel, they are shooting!" came the nervouse voice of a soldier from the back of our jeep. Colonel Monterrosa bid us a calm goodnight without dipping the lights of his vehicle.

The next morning we set off to watch polling in the north-east of the country which has borne the brunt of four years of civil war. We were not three miles out of town when we ran into the guerrillas at the first of their many road blocks we were to see that day. Under their guns we stepped from our car to explain our mission.

"We are mining the road," the guerrillas said. "But we have not done so yet, so you may go ahead. Be careful on your way back."

The colonel had told us that many of the mines planted by guerrillas to keep transport of the roads during the elections were dummies. None the less, the only traffic we saw on the road throughout the day was either Army or press. At ever crossroads large groups of people waited in vain for a bus or a lorry to carry them to the urns. But nothing was moving.

As we drove north towards the rebel stronghold of northern Morazan we found small groups of peasants walking to the polling stations. But for many others the journey was either too far or too dangerous.

Where towns were full of soldiers, we saw long queues of voters waiting to cast their votes. There was also much confusion. The complex, computerized polling system was just too much for the Salvadorean country folk, of whom 17 per cent is illiterate.

Many had queued for hours to find that their names and identity numbers were not on the list. They wandered off forlornly to another polling station. It was mid-afternoon before in vigilators began to abandon the system to scribble names on the back of the neat computer print-outs.

The £1m computer donated by the United States appeared to be doing more to undermine the elections than the modest muscle flexing we had seen from the rebels.

At Osicala, on the edge of "bandit country", we bumped into Mr Thomas Pickering, the American Amassador, who declared himself pleased with what he was seeing, people walking miles and waiting patiently to exercise their democratic right. "Can you imagine people doing this in California?" he asked.

We pushed on, across the Torola river into northern Morazan. The bridge had been blown up so we drove through the river entering the town of Meangera, crumbling and abandoned with not even a dog in sight. Walking ahead of the car in search of mines we eventually ran into another guerrilla road block.

No, the guerrillas said, we could not go further to talk to people in towns above us which the ballot boxes could not reach.

In late afternoon, the square in front of the cathedral at San Vicente was packed. The voting was obviously very lively. The military band struck up a tune. It took a few moments to recognise the strains of the *Death March*. We heard women crying as the first coffin was borne shoulder-high up the cathedral steps. We had stumbled upon the funeral of a group of young soldiers killed in an ambush the day before.

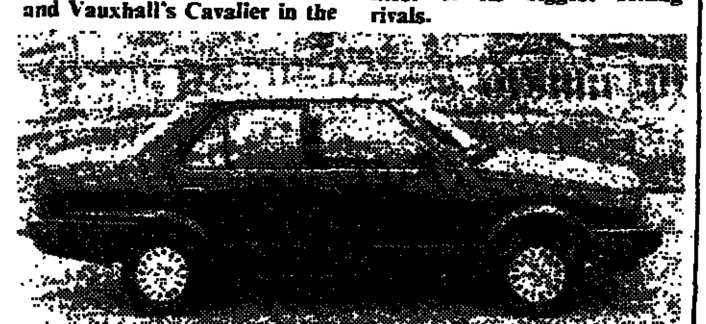
In the capital, it seemed the confusion was even worse. One of the three main candidates had found his name missing from the list. There was talk of declaring the whole process void. "That could never happen," a veteran American correspondent remarked. "It would be too much of a blow to Reagan's prestige."

Front runner: Señor Duarte (left) claiming a win with his running-mate, Señor Rodolfo Castillo Claramount.

Fiat's cut-price Regata challenges rivals

Fiat yesterday added another car to its fast changing range with a replacement for the 131 Mirafiori family saloon. The Regata (below) which goes on sale in Britain immediately with engines from 1300cc to 1600cc, will be a direct competitor for Ford's Orion and Vauxhall's Cavalier in the conventional "three box", four-door saloon sector which accounts for a third of the cars sold in Britain (Clifford Webb, motoring correspondent, writes).

The six versions of the Regata are priced to undercut most of its biggest selling rivals.



Austin threat to buy car parts abroad

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Mr Harold Musgrove, chairman and chief executive of Austin Rover, said yesterday that he will not jeopardize his company's improved performance by continuing to support uncompetitive British component manufacturer when be can buy foreign components 15 per cent cheaper.

Austin Rover is the biggest customer of the British component industry, spending £850m last year.

Mr Musgrove told the Government that "unfair" car imports from Spain were reducing British car production and that meant that domestic components firms were becoming uncompetitive because they were supplying a dwindling market. The only real hope for them was to sell overseas.

"We have to tap into the same component volume base as our international competitors. That base is moving out of this country. Unless something is done to reverse the trend we shall have to buy our parts overseas at the right price."

He said it was "economic suicide" to allow Spanish cars to pay only 4 per cent import duty in Britain while our cars travelling in the opposite direction has to pay 36 per cent.

Mr Musgrove said: "British component firms cannot rely on Austin Rover for their survival. We are telling them: 'You have to get your act together'."

Duarte must face runoff poll

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Not one official statistic of El Salvador's elections on Sunday had been released yesterday morning, but agreement appeared to be widespread that Señor José Napoleón Duarte and Major Roberto d'Aubuisson would be fighting for the presidency in a run-off election within 40 days.

The first official result had been expected at 8pm on Sunday, two hours after voting ended. Given the chaos that reigned at the polling stations, it was explained, the official results would begin to trickle in on Monday afternoon. Late on Monday night journalists, cameras at the ready, duly appeared at the national counting centre in San Salvador, only to discover a sea of eerie inactivity.

Ballots have been counted at all the country's polling stations but the results have in many cases not arrived in San Salvador and in all cases have not been officially released.

Nevertheless, everyone is behaving as if the results had been declared and the elections are officially over: Señor Duarte is victorious; Major d'Aubuisson is menacingly crestfallen; provisional president Alvaro Magana calls the elections "a rejection of left-wing terrorism"; President Reagan, in Washington, exults at "another victory for freedom over tyranny".

No one, it appears, disputes the claims of Señor Duarte, a Christian Democrat, based on his understanding of counts at the polling stations, that he won a majority but not an outright victory, with Major d'Aubuisson, candidate of the Republican Nationalist Alliance Party, (Arena), taking second place.

Six sentenced to hang for Kuwait bombing

Kuwait (Reuter) – A court yesterday sentenced six people to death by public hanging for their part in a series of bombings in Kuwait in December which killed six people and wounded more than 80.

Seven of the 25 accused men, four of whom were tried in absentia, were sentenced to life imprisonment, four to 15 years, one to 10 years and two to five years. Three of those sentenced to death are still on the run. Five of the accused were acquitted.

Echoes of Andropov as Gorbachov demands dynamism and discipline

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Chernenko leadership has vowed to continue Mr Yuri Andropov's reformist economic programme despite Mr Chernenko's declared doubts and conservative approach.

Sources said that a key role in keeping the Andropov reforms alive was being played by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, aged 52, who is thought to have challenged Mr Chernenko for the leadership last month but remains in charge of economic matters on the Politburo.

At a meeting in the Kremlin on agriculture reported on the front page of Pravda yesterday Mr Chernenko said the food programme adopted in 1982 was "only the beginning". He said new methods were needed, including a decisive improvement in agro-industrial complexes and management reorganization. "Frankly speaking there is very little time left . . . It is vital to find urgent and thorough solutions".

Mr Chernenko's remarks were broadcast on television, which showed him leaning forward, supporting himself on the desk in front. He spoke poorly and seemed short of breath, as on previous occasions since becoming party leader on February 13.

The main speech, however, came from Mr Gorbachov, who has overseen an upturn in agricultural production including the grain harvest, over the past year – and some improvement in food supplies.

Mr Gorbachov put the increase in output at 5 per cent, but said that planned targets for grain, meat and milk had still not been met. In a deliberate echo of Andropov era terminology he called for dynamism, initiative and discipline, and said that officials should be "politically mature, literate and competent organizers with a feeling for the new" – a shaft evidently aimed at the hidebound bureaucrats Mr Andropov tried to purge but who feel protected by Mr Chernenko, who is 72.

At a press conference yesterday officials from industry and trade unions said the "brigade system" of payment by results would continue and even be expanded in both agriculture and industry. Under the system favoured by Mr Andropov, teams or "brigades" of workers on farms and in factories enter into a contract with the management and are paid according to productivity.

The team leader, known as a "brigadier", distributes the profits to the team.

Observers noted that the Kremlin meeting was not attended by Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister, who normally deals with economic problems, or by two other Politburo members from key agricultural regions, Mr Dinmukhamed Kunaev of Kazakhstan and Mr Vladimir Shcherbitsky of the Ukraine. Mr Viktor Grishin, the Moscow city party boss, also stayed away. No explanations were given.

Jordan deal on arms sours visit by Herzog

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

President Chaim Herzog of Israel arrived in London yesterday with the avowed intent of improving Anglo-Israeli relations, only to find his own embassy seething over reports of an Anglo-Arab arms deal.

Leaks on the £90m sale of anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan have been happily timed for Britain, with the Queen halfway through her controversial visit to the Heshemite kingdom.

But they could hardly have been less fortuitous for Mr Herzog, who is here for five days as a guest of the Anglo-Jewish community.

This is the visit during which he intends to invite the Queen to Israel, when he lunches with her at Windsor Castle on Monday, as was disclosed in a *Times* interview last week.

But he will also call on Mrs Thatcher in Downing Street and will be a fellow guest with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, at a lawyers' dinner chaired by Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor. President Herzog, born in Belfast and son of Ireland's Chief Rabbi, is a member of Lincoln's Inn.

Other functions he will attend include dinners with the Anglo-Israel Association and with members of the Jewish Community in London. But details of his programme are not being released for security reasons.

The former chief of military intelligence in Israel and one-time ambassador at the United Nations now aged 65, said in last week's interview that he would like Britain to support Israel more openly in international forums.

East-West thaw on Kornienko agenda

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Georgy Kornienko, the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union, arrived in Britain for high-level talks last night, with the latest sharp exchange between the two governments still echoing in Whitehall.

But he remains the highest-ranking Russian to come here on official business for eight years, and his two-day visit is unlikely to be seen other than a sign of improving relations.

His programme starts today at the Foreign Office where he will meet Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Minister of State and his official host, followed by Lady Young who is his opposite number in Whitehall. He will also attend a seminar at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) before going to watch the Royal Ballet at Covent Garden tonight.

Tomorrow he will see Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Sir Julian Bullard, the Deputy Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office, and will visit the Department of Trade and Industry, before returning to Moscow on Friday morning.

East-West relations and arms control, as well s bilateral trade, are at the top of the agenda, while it remains to be seen how far British ministers will broach the delicate subject of human rights.

These are all important in themselves, especially since the Soviet decision to suspend the nuclear arms talks in Geneva last November. Sir Geoffrey and his ministers will urge the Russians to return to the negotiating table during their conversations today and tomorrow. But the fact that Mr Kornienko is coming at all is more significant. He was originally due her last September, returning a visit made by Mr Rifkind to Moscow in April.

The invitation was withdrawn by Britain, however, after the South Korean airliner was shot down, and there has been speculation since over its renewal. Aged 59, Mr Korienko is a sophisticated career diplomat who speaks English fluently and has long specialized in the United States. He once accompanied President Brezhnev to the US and France.

Other subjects for discussion will probably include the July visit by Sir Geoffrey to Moscow, which was disclosed two weeks ago.

Mr Kornienko has arrived in the wake of attacks by *Tass* and *Pravada* on Mrs Thatcher, after her article in *The Times* in which she criticized the era of détente in the late 1970s as a period of "make-believe".

But the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary have also spoken recently of the need to broaden the dialogue with Moscow and it is in this context that Mr Kornienko's visit should be seen.

Prince and communist unite against gangsters

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The little town of Paliano is digging in its heels against the decision to send 18 members of the Camorra (Naples version of the Mafia) to the local prison which already includes among its inmates about 40 terrorists.

Paliano is a charming hill town near Frosinone to the south of Rome, which is best known as a tourist centre and for its splendid natural park owned by Prince Antonello Ruffo di Calabria. Signor Guiseppe Alveti, the Communist mayor, has injected the idea of sending alleged Camorra criminals to his town, all of whom have broken the rules of the Neapolitan criminal organization by giving evidence to investigators. He is supported by the prince who is profoundly shocked that Paliano should be about to receive examples of "the deepest evil, this cancer of society."

The mayor's fear is that Paliano will attract killers intent on eliminating men whom the Camorro regards as traitors. Meanwhile, a telephone call, ostensibly from a Red Brigade group insisted that the record theft at the weekend of the equivalent of £15m was the work of the terrorists and not of common criminals.

The idea that terrorists are about to begin a spring offensive would be dispiriting for those who felt the battle against terroristm had been virtually won.

Diplomat wounded in Beirut

Form Our Correspondent
Beirut

Gunmen wounded a French diplomat in west Beirut yesterday, while French troops continued to leave amid scattered fighting between Christian and Muslim militics.

East Beirut and nearby Christian suburbs came under artillery fire at mid-morning. Police said 20 civilians were injured, including four children from one of the few Muslim families in the area.

M Sauveur Gliozzo, the French cultural attaché, was shot in the main shopping district of Hamra as he walked to work. He was hit in the side, stomach and thigh and a bullet grazed his forehead. He was in a stable condition after surgery at the American University Hospital.

No one claimed responsibility. Two other French citizens – an embassy driver and a diplomat's wife – were shot on the streets of west Beirut earlier this year. The driver died, but the woman was only slightly hurt.

A military spokesman said 205 French soldiers left yesterday, bringing the total to almost 500 of the 1,300-man contingent. An embassy source said 40 French ceasefire observers would be arriving soon to help police monitor militias along the "green line" between east and west Beirut.



Youthful convert: The Rev Jesse Jackson on the stump in Buffalo, New York, before next Tuesday's key primary.



Old Stagers: James Cagney, the actor, now confined to a wheelchair, receiving a kiss from Mrs Nancy Reagan and congratulations from the President at a White House ceremony where he was also given the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Barricade believed escape-proof

E Germans build electric fence

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

As East German border guards continued to dismantle automatic firing devices along the frontier with the West, the West German press carried details yesterday of a new border fence being erected behind the old one which experts here say is virtually impossible to scale.

The 10ft high electrically charged barricade is set back some 500 yards from the main fence and consists of metal railings with razor-sharp edges designed to cut the hands of anyone attempting to climb it.

On the inward-facing side about 25 alarm wires are stretched along the length of the fence, with a further eight on the inward-sloping top section. If anyone touches more than one wire he causes a short-circuit setting off alarms in the watchtowers and observation huts.

Work apparently began on the new fence about a year ago, several months before the dismantling of the scatter guns. It now extends about 28 miles along the border, most of it in the northern sector.

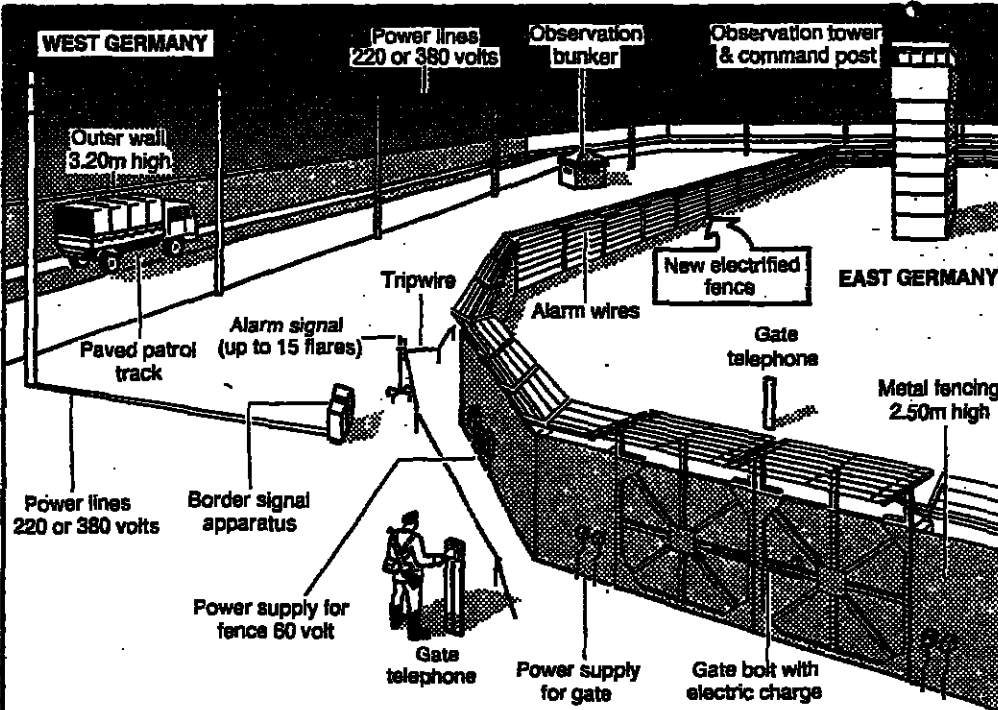
Details of construction were given in this week's issue of *Der Spiegel*, which said that on February 13 one of the electricians working on the outer side of the new installation leaped across the old fence into West Germany and has since provided Bonn with a meticulous account of the new fence.

The "border signal fence", as it is known, rests on concrete slabs that extend some 4ft into the ground to prevent tunnelling. Raked earth extending 20ft from the fence gives visual warning of anyone coming near. Sheets of steel, said to be imported from West Germany are bolted to the fence posts.

Watchtowers are set up every 500 yards or so, and if anyone succeeds in climbing the fence he is then confronted with delicate trip wires on the other side which signal to the watchtowers exactly where he is.

The new fence is not lethal, as the electric current through the alarm wires is only 60 volts. But it is so secure that the East German authorities can confidently continue removing the 50,000 automatic firing devices, the 120 miles of minefields, and other deadly devices which give the world a very negative image of East Germany every time someone is shot or maimed on the border.

Guards have had less occasion to open fire in recent months, and Bonn is hoping that the official order to shoot escapers will soon be lifted. This would remove one of the main points of friction in negotiations



So near yet so far: Latest refinement in border control is a fence to detect escapers.

Civil trial for Bignone likely

Buenos Aires (NYT) – An Argentine judge has challenged a new law under which the trials of army officers would come under the jurisdiction of military courts, and has ordered that an action against Argentina's last military president be taken up by a civilian court.

The ruling, lawyers said, was likely to affect the prosecution of military officers accused in the disappearances of thousands of people under the military junta that ruled Argentina until late last year.

The decision involves former President Reynaldo Bignone, who was arrested on Janurary 10 in connexion with the disappearance of two armed conscripts, members of the Communist Youth Federation. Both disappeared in 1976 after they were arrested in the grounds of the National Military College while General Bignone was director.

The Criminal Court of Appeals in Buenos Aires has ruled that charges concerning the disappearances are offences outside the jurisdiction of the military code of justice. The court refused a request to have President Bignone tried in a military court.

The case has caused a stir among members of the government and human rights groups who have been at odds over the issue of who sits in judgment over the people who ordered abductions, torture and killings.

"This is very important," said a prominent lawyer who has served on the Supreme Court. "Unless it is overruled by the Supreme Court, it means that many cases of disappeared persons will be judged by civilians."

Present Raul Alfonsin's Government has ordered the prosecution of commanders who issued orders in the disappearances and of lower-ranking men who committed excesses on their own initiative. The Government has also enacted a law reinforcing the jurisdiction of military courts to permit the armed forces to conduct their own investigations. This was the subject of the Appeal Court's ruling.

Human rights workers and lawyers have said they fear the military will be whitewashed in its own courts, even though military verdicts are subject to civilian review.

Under the recent reviewed Argentine military code, common crimes committed by military officers before September 1983 come under military jurisdiction. But under Argentine constitutional law, abduction remains a crime until it is solved. That is it remains a continuing crime until the victim is found, a lawyer said.

To former prisoners and to the relatives and friends of the tortured, dead and missing, the debate over the trials of the Argentine officers appeared to be paramount interest during this period of government change.

For the past week, hundreds of lawyers and human rights workers have been registering new complaints and hearing evidence. The National Commission for the Disappeared, appointed by President Alfonsin, had recorded a total of 8,426 disappeared persons, according to a spokesman. "Of these, 950 are names we had never heard before", the spokesman said, remarking on the recent increase in reports of old cases. Many people are coming forward now because they were afraid before.

The Supreme Council of the armed forces had received about 250 cases, which was fewer than expected, said Señor Horacio Jaunarena, Deputy Minister of Defence. He believed the number was low because thousands of Argentine exiles are still abroad and many people prefer not to take their complaints to the military.

● **Holiday off:** Argentina has dropped a national holiday celebrating the invasion of the Falkland Islands. The decree ordering the change said the holiday, put on the calendar by the previous military government, commemorates "an event whose celebration is incongruous with the sentiments it evokes".

Bonn's arms policy worries Jews

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Mr Edgar Bronfman, President of the Jewish World Congress, declared publicly before meeting Chancellor Helmut Kohl that Jews were "deeply concerned" by the possibility of West German arms exports to Saudi Arabia.

He said he would make this concern the main topic of talks during a visit intended to strengthen links between Germans and Jews. As well as meeting Dr Kohl, he had talks on Monday with Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the parliamentary leader of the Social Democrats. Yesterday he visited the site of Dachau concentration camp, near Munich.

Mr Bronfman, told *Die Welt*, a paper strongly critical of arms exports to Saudi Arabia, that he knew from his meeting with Dr Kohl in Washington earlier this month that Germany intended to increase Saudi stability by supplying defence armaments. But he said this would reduce rather than increase stability in the Middle East.

Turks pick different kind of opposition

From Rasit Gurdiler
Ankara

While Mr Turgut Ozal's resounding success in Sunday's local polls consolidated his power, the outcome of the contest has already started to eat away at the country's new political structure so meticulously crafted by the former military regime.

The electorate made its support clear for the Prime Minister with 44 per cent of the total votes, securing for the ruling Motherland Party control of the municipalities in 54 of the country's 67 provincial parties.

With the same clarity it rejected the two opposition parties allowed into the Parliament last November, in effect turning their functions over to the social democratic Sodep and the conservative Right Way Party, which were both excluded from the general election.

While Sodep emerged from the local polls as the second biggest party with 22 per cent of the votes and the Right Way Party followed with 44 per cent, the Populist Party, which has 117 seats in the 400-strong parliament, saw its more than 30 per cent support in general elections dwindle to a meagre 8 per cent in Sunday's contest.

Meanwhile the centre-right Nationalist Democracy Party, the big loser of last November, continued its downhill roll with 6.4 percent. It has 67 deputies in the Parliament, whose continued its downhill roll with 6.4 per cent. It has 67 deputies in the Parliament, whose continued allegiance to the party leadership had become dubious even before Sunday.

Immediately after the results were known, the leaders of both extra-parliamentary opposition parties, disappointed though there were over the slipped chance of forcing an early general election, pressed home their claim to be the "true opposition".

While the press commentaries conceded the anomaly of leaving the two which together account for nearly 40 per cent of the votes outside the sphere of "official politics" Mr Ozal made clear that it would be so.

Emerging from a meeting with President Kenan Evren a day after the poll, the Prime Minister belittled the support given by the electorate to the two extra-parliamentary rivals, arguing that they could be regarded as "local opposition at best, as it was a local poll in which they had contended".

The troubles started to plague the Populist Party yesterday. Its leader, Mr Calp, had pledged to resign if the party was defeated by Sodep in the local polls.

When, however, he allowed himself to be persuaded by the party executive to remain at his post despite the Populists' humiliation before the Sodep, Mr Niyazi Aras, the deputy chairman, handed his resignation in protest, which was accepted.

But when the deputy secretary-general also tended his resignation, it was refused by the apparently panic-stricken party leadership, while the rumours were rife here of further defections from the party.

Papandreou loses his Finance Minister

Athens – The Greek Government lost its third Finance Minister since coming to power 30 months ago, in what appears to be a dramatic clash over its economic policies (Mario Modiano writes).

A sudden statement by Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, that Mr Yiannis Pottakis and one of his under-secretaries had resigned gave no reason.

Mr Pottakis is known to have had serious policy differences with Mr Gerasimos Arsenis, the Minister of National Economy, often described as the country's economic czar, and who now takes over the Finance portfolio as well.

Romania sacks two ministers

Bucharest (AP) – Romania's Ministers of Agriculture and Electric Power have been replaced, *Scinteia*, the party newspaper reported, because their two ministries failed to meet quotas last year.

On the orders of President Ceausescu, Mr Ion Tesu is succeeded by Gheorge David and Mr Trandafir Cocarla by Nicolae Busui.

General shot

Lyons (AP) – General Guy Delfosse, regional commander of the gendarmerie in central France, was shot dead while trying to negotiate with two bandits who entered a bank while he was there on business. The raiders fled without money but took the surveillance camera.

Dam money

Canberra (Reuter) – Australia's federal government has offered the state of Tasmania a package worth \$A230m (£225m) to compensate for the halting of the hydro-electric dam porject in one of the world's most beautiful wildernesses. The package includes power subsidy over 10 years.

Pirates held

Bangkok (Reuter) – Four fisherman have been charged in Songkhla with piracy, rape and abduction in an attack on a boatload of Vietnamese refugees off the Thai coast last June. It was the first arrest of such pirates since December 1981.

Clean-up defied

Zurich (AP). – The director of Switzerland's largest circulation newspaper *Blick*, fined 3,000 Swiss francs (£1,000) by Zurich for publishing massage parlour advertisements, said he will continue to run them until a court rules on the fine's legality.

Berlin scare

Berlin (AP) – Up to 1,000 residents may have to be evacuated from more than 100 houses in the Rudow district of West Berlin which are built over a Second World War anti-tank ditch now found to be full of live ammunition.

Sékou Touré dies on the operating table

Cleveland, Ohio (Reuter) – President Ahmed Sékou Touré of Guinea has died during heart surgery in a United States hospital after being rushed from West Africa in a specially equipped aircraft provided by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. He was 62 and the longest-ruling modern African leader.

He died at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation Hospital on Monday after a two and a half hour attempt to save his life on the operating table, a hospital spokesman said yesterday.

He said President Sékou Touré arrived earlier the same day after a 10-hour flight in a flying cardiac intensive care unit – an aircraft equipped with the latest monitoring and life support technology. The decision to transfer him to Cleveland was taken by four physicians who flew to Conakry, the Guinean capital, on Saturday.

Both the visit by the Cleveland physicians and the loan of the aircraft by King Fahd followed requests by King Hassan of Morocco who earlier sent three of his own doctors.

● **DAKAR:** President Touré's death has stunned West Africa (Susan MacDonald writes).

Over the past few years he had emerged from isolation to become one of the foremost leaders in the region. The shock was summed up by President Abdou Diouf of Senegal when he spoke of his profound emotion and great sadness.

Mr Lansana Beavogui is the number two man in the regime and has been Prime Minister since 1972. He is acting head of state for the time being. Under the constitution a national plebiscite must be held within 45 days to elect a new President.

Leading article, page 15
Obituary, page 16

Clampdown keeps Chile quiet

Santiago (Reuter). – Tight security by Chile's military government apparently succeeded in keeping Santiago calm yesterday at the start of a day of protest to press for a quick return to democracy.

An overnight curfew – the first this year – ended with traffic returning to the streets of the capital despite residents' reports of four overnight bomb blasts.

The Government said it imposed the new security measures to protect people after a wave of bomb attacks in recent weeks. It also cited the violence of last year's day of protest, which displayed the most widespread expression of discontent in a decade of military rule.

Prince says he wants a daughter

Gaborone (Reuter) – The Prince of Wales, on the final leg of his four-nation African tour, yesterday inspected a dam project outside Gaborone.

The Prince, on the first full day of a 10-day visit to Botswana first inspected work on the main wall at Gaborone dam, the reservoir for the southern region of this drought-stricken country.

Then he spent more than an hour at the secondary school, the largest in Botswana with 1,200 pupils.

He was asked by children about Prince William. To gales of laughter, he said the young prince was very mischievous and broke everything in the house. He said it would be nice if his next child was a girl.

Luanda placates Pretoria and confirms Lusaka peace accord

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa is satisfied that Angola still stands by last month's Lusaka peace accord, and says it will continue to take part in the joint Luanda-Pretoria monitoring commission which is supervising the withdrawal of South African troops from southern Angola.

This was made clear yesterday by Mr Roelof "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, when he disclosed that he had received "certain explanations" from Luanda in response to his demand for an urgent clarification of last week's joint statement by President Dos Santos of Angola and President Castro of Cuba.

South Africa took strong exception to some of the language in the statement which, it said at the time, raised doubts about Angola's continuing commitment to the Lusaka accord. Now, Mr Botha says, Angola has confirmed that it "recognizes the Lusaka agreement and accepts its validity".

What particularly rankles in Pretoria was a reference in the Angola-Cuban statement to solidarity with the "heroic struggle" of Swapo guerrillas in Namibia and the banned African National Congress ((ANC) in South Africa.

The statement also spoke of Swapo and the ANC as the "sole legitimate representatives" of the Namibian and South African peoples. Mr Botha pointed out, with some justice, that this was a little hard to accept when Angolan troops simultanously had been involved alongside South African soldiers in clashes with Swapo.

The Angolans, meanwhile, have issued a statement through their national news agency, saying that their expression of support for the two black nationalist organizations was merely a confirmation of "positions of principle" and had no bearing on the validity of the Lusaka accord.

Luanda has also accused South Africa of ignoring the "most important part" of the Cuban-Angola statement – namely, the offer to withdraw Cuban troops gradually from Angola on certain conditions.

This, in fact, is true. Pretoria has not yet responded in any detailed way to the Angola offer which, despite the rhetorical wrapping paper, seems not to rule out the possibility of a parallel withdrawal of Cubans from Angola and South African troops from Namibia.

Unless there is movement on the Cubans, the South Africans say they cannot begin to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 435, which provides for a ceasefire in Namibia between Swapo and Pretoria, supervised by the UN, leading to elections to a constituent assembly and independence.

● LISBON: Unita rebels yesterday said they had captured a coastal town 190 miles south of Luanda and gave warning of intensified fighting unless the Government agreed to direct peace talks (Reuter reports).

A Unita communiqué, issued in Lisbon, said 5,000 guerrillas stormed Sumbe, the capital of Cuanza-Sul Province, during a six-hour battle on Sunday. More than 500 government troops, 62 Cubans, seven Russians, 12 Bulgarians and five Italian technicians were killed, with 65 Angolans, four Bulgarians and 10 Portuguese captured, the rebels claimes. Unita losses were given as 42 dead, 103 wounded and seven missing.



Royalty and a royal breed: The Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and King Husain's sister, Princess Alia, admiring an Arab stallion in Amman.

UN report is first proof of breach in chemical war ban

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

A United Nations report presented by an internaitonal team of military and medical experts on the use of mustard gas and nerve gas against Iranian targets in the gulf war, marks the first formal substantiation of allegations that chemical weapons have beem employed since the Geneva Protocal of 1925 went into effect.

Although there have been charges that similar weapons were used in Yemen in the 1960s and American allegations that the Soviet Union and Vietnam had resorted to mycotoxins know as "yellow rain", in Afghanistan and Indochina, the charges were never unreservedly confimed.

Both the use of mustard and nerve gas are outlawed by the protocal which includes Iran and Iraq as its signatories.

The conclusion of the UN team, composed of four specialists from Australia, Spain, Switzerland and Sweden who each gathered and examined evidence pertaining to their fields of expertise, were unanimours.

They ruled that the military and clinical evidence confirmed that chemical weapons in the form of aerial bombs have been used in the areas of Iran the team inspected.

Their methods included intervies with Iranian Government officials, visits to the war zone, and clinical examinations of patients evacuated from the front. The specialists spent six days in Iran, but were refused entry to Iraq.

Their findings, ishued without qualification, failed to name spesifically the user of the weapons without the benefit of having actually witnessed an aerial attack. Their most dramatic piece of evidence was an unexploded bomb found in the war zone which contained a dark brown, oily liquid shown to contain mustard gas. Other samples of liquid and soil were found to contain a nerve gas called tabun.

All three 300lb bombs examined had greenish casings marked "BR 250 WP" and timing fuses with instructions in spanish. Of the 47 patients and 12 bodies, 38 cases were found to be part of a clinical pattern consistent with exposure to chemical weapons.

The specialists also reported that the area of the war zone surveyed appeared to be of a type that would normally be selected as a target for conventional attack. Bombs containing chemicals might be used in an attempt to clear the area, so that after a safe period it could be occupied by an attacking force.

Both the report and Iran's announcement that it would use chemical weapons as well as fuelled fears that the Gulf war has reached the stage where no moral prescriptions will prevent the use of any weapon necessary to attain a final victory.

But it was unlikely that the Security Council, where a majority tilt towards Iraq, would issue a condemnation.

Why treaty fails

After negotiations in Geneva a convention banning the production, stockpiling and use of biological weapons was signed in 1972. But "germ" weapons have always been of doubtful effectiveness. Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent, writes.

The use of chemical munitons was prohibited by the Geneva Protocol of 1925, but not their production or stockpiling. Some signatories have continued to make them.

The present Geneva talks held by the Conference on Disarmament, have the objective of stopping production altogether, but veryfying compliance remain an obstacle.

Coup leader sentenced to death

From Charles Harrison Nairobi

The second alleged ringleader of the attempted coup which was launched here on August 1, 1982, Air Force Sergeant Pancras Okumu, was yesterday sentenced to death by a court-marshal.

He had pleaded not guilty to treason and in a statement claimed that he had joint the revolt after learning that the Kenyan minister for constitutional affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo, was involved in another coup plot timed to take place a few days later.

Earlier, Okumu had complained that he had been promised his freedom if he agreed to implicate Mr Njonjo in the coup plot. He said this offer was made to him by Kenyan representatives after he had been granted political asylum in Tanzania.

Okumu and private Hezekian Ochuka, who was sentenced to death last week, were said to be ringleaders of the attempted coup which was put down within a few hours by loyal troops. Both then fled to Tanzania by hijacking a military plane.

Nakasone trip helps to ease tensions

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

By the standads of China's diplomatic game, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, Japan's Prime Minister, appears to have scored valuable points both for neighbouring South Korea and for the principle of "mutual trust" between Japan and China during his first official visit to Peking which ended this week.

The longer-term diplomatic results could be a subtle easing of tension in the region, especially in relations with the troubled Korean peninsula. For the time being, the trip made clear that Japan's relations with China have never been better.

Chinese leaders proved much more amenable than expected to a request conveyed by Mr Nakasone from South Korea, which has no official ties to China, to allow Koreans in China to visit and be visited by relatives in the south.

The Chinese went so far as to say that Koreans living in China – some 1.7 million of both northern and southern origins – should be able to meet relatives on visits not only in China and South Korea but even Tokyo. Seoul's news agency responded immediately by reporting that ten Koreans have already signed up with the International Red Cross to go.

It is still anyone's guess as to whether this turn of events will have any future impact, however subtle, on humanitarian exchanges between the two Koreas. There was no sign of specific progress toward starting up of a dialogue between North and South Korea, but both countries agreed that war must be prevented from breaking out on the peninsula.

China further indicated that it would help communications between Japan and North Korea, which lack diplomatic ties. Japan does not intend to use China as a conduit on specific political or economic issues, but rather as a means of conveying precise intentions.

Japan's attitude to the North has been put under further strain by last year's Rangoon bombing, which killed several South Korean officials, and which North Korea is accused of perpetrating.

Mr Nakasone went to China bearing gifts, notably a promise of long-term economic aid which could total 470,000 yen over the next seven years and 50m yen for the relief of starving pandas.

Scholar's startling new theory

Did English start in India?

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A South Indian student of language has come up with a novel theory about the origins of English. According to squadron leader P Shivaprasad Rai, English sprang from a language spoken by over a million people living in the south-west of India in a region known as Dakshina Kannada.

The language is Rulu, which long ago was widely spoken all over the Indian sub-continent before the Aryan invasions of the second millennium before Christ. According to the squadron leader, the Tuluas sailed from India sometime in the seventh or eighth century BC and wandered through Asia and Europe until they ended up invading Britain as the Angles, bringing their unique language with them.

He draws his conclusions from a close comparison of the syntax, morphology and phonetics of the two languages. In a paper delivered last week to the first international conference on literature in translation held in Delhi he drew attention, for instance, to the English work 'like', which may be used as an adjective, an adverb, a verb, noun or conjunction. It has its equivalent in Tulu *leka* which has similar flexible uses.

He also points out that among all the Indo-European languages only two, English and Tulu, use 'W' in the same way.

A tongue-in-the-cheek comment from the Calcutta English language newspaper *The Statesman* says that while the theory is not likely to be taken too seriously in academic circles it adds a new dimension to the debate going on in Britain about linguistic permissiveness, by suggesting an exotic authority for arbitration.

Fatal blast intensifies NZ industrial tension

From W. R. Reeves, Wellington

A fatal blast in the trades hall in Wellington yesterday heightened an already tense industrial situation. One unidentified man was killed and another injured.

It is thought the explosion was caused by a bomb left in a suitcase in the foyer of the building, which accomodates the head offices of a number of national unions, though the police have not yet confirmed this.

The interior of the building was extensively damaged. No arrests have been made.

The union movement is involved in formulating its response to the Government's decree last week of $NZ8 (£4) a week pay rise, the first increase allowed in more than 19 months.

Sir Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, says that is all the country can afford if the anti-inflationary gains achieved by the 18-month wages and prices freeze are not to be frittered away.

The unions, angry that wage control is to stay while prices are freed, want at least $NZ17. They have been holding joint meetings and the Federation of Labour has undertaken to back their responses.

Mullahs at prayer killed by Afghan mosque bomb

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

The Soviet-supported regime of Mr Babrak Karmal is trying to make a propaganda coup out of the bombing of a mosque by *mujahidin* guerrillas in Kabul. The soviet-built mosque was blasted at 6.20 pm on March 21 when a number of people were at prayer in the building. According to the Afghan Government four mullahs were killled and seven injured.

Western diplomats in Delhi yesterday said, however, that nine bodies were counted being taken out of the smoking ruins and that at least 11 people were seriously injured.

A statement put out by the government media said the incident was evidence of "the bestial and anit-Islamic nature of counter-revolutionary sold-out indidel thugs."

The Western view is that the incident show that a major attack can be mounted in daylight in a sensitive area of the Afghan capital. The mosque is close to the Polytechnic Institute buildings in the north-west of the city. March 21 was the Afghan New Year festival of Nauroz, and security had been stepped up.

The attack appears to have been a response to the international conference of Islamic scholars and clergy held by the regime during the previous week to boost its Islamic creditials. Although the delegates were invited from every Islamic country in the world, the only foreign representatives came from India, The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and the Soviet Central Asian republics.

Sino-Soviet deadlock played down by Moscow

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

The fourth round of Sino-Soviet "consultations" ended in Moscow yesterday, but against expectations Soviet comment was low key and gave no hint of progress.

Observers had expected Moscow to give some indication of the state of Sino-Soviet relations in view of President Reagan's planned visit to Peking next month. "The Russians won't want the Americans to have it all their own way in Peking", one diplomat said, noting that the Kremlin is suspicious of the Chinese-American relationship and sharply criticised the visit to China last weekend by the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone.

A statement issued by Tass yesterday said Mr Qian Qichen, the Chinese deputy foreign minister and his soviet counterpart Mr Leonid Ilychov had continued the exchange of views on the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations. The talks had taken place in a frank and calm atmosphere and would resume in October in Peking.

Diplomatic sources said there had been no progress in the five meetings held since Mr Qian arrived in Moscow on March 12. There was still deadlock on the three main issues: Soviet backing for Vietnamese domination of Kampuchea; the presence of Soviet troops on the Chinese border and the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

Moscow however noted yesterday that the Vietnamese press had described tensions between Vietnam and China as abnormal,

Witness who was admired and hated

Controversial honour for Hiss case man

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

Few figures in post-war America have aroused such conflicting passions as Whittaker Chambers, the traitor-turned-patriot who was posthumously awarded the US Medal of Freedom by President Reagan on Monday.

To liberals and those on the left of the political spectrum the man who inculpated Alger Hiss – and indirectly helped launch the political rise of Richard Nixon – is still regarded with a mixture of loathing and contempt.

Right-wingers, on the other hand, consider him a modern American hero, a man who halted the spread of communist ideology in American intellectual society and who restored the nation's faith in God and freedom.

That President Reagan should have decided to present America's highest civilian honour to such a controversial figure says much about his own personality and the nature of his Administration.

President Reagan read Chambers's exculpatory memoir *Witness* three decades ago, at a time when he was beginning his own political metamorphosis from liberal Democrat to conservative Republican.



Whittaker Chambers: Tribute from President Reagan.

According to the White House, the President still admires Chambers for "seeing the light in coming from communism to freedom" – so much so, in fact, that he has been invoking Chambers's name and example in recent speeches.

Indeed Chambers's influence is detectable in much that Mr Reagan says or does, whether it is describing the Soviet Union as "an evil empire" or supporting (unsuccessfully as it turned out) a constitutional amendment authorizing organized prayer in public schools.

Chambers joined the Communist Party in 1925, quickly rose through the ranks and eventually ended up in the Soviet Union where he underwent training as a spy. He returned to the US and set up a group in Washington which pilfered government secrets and passed them on to Moscow.

However by 1937 he had become disillusioned by Stalin's repressive leadership and, fearing assassination, lived for a year in hiding. He was later taken on by *Time* magazine where as Foreign Editor he became known for his virulent anti-communist views.

It was not until almost a decade later that he became a national celebrity after being subpoenaed to appear before the House un-American activities committee. Chambers caused a sensation by telling the committee that among his accomplices in his spy cell was Alger Hiss, a former high-flyer in the State Department who had participated in the Yalta summit conference

The prolonged battle between Chambers and Hiss which ensued turned into a classic confrontation of style and ideology. Mr Hiss was tall, elegant, well-spoken, well connected and a firm advocate of the New Deal policies which were being threatened by the anti-communist fervour then prevailing in Congress. Mr Chambers was a short, pudgy, rumpled figure who expounded his anti-communist views with almost messianic zeal.

Mr Hiss denied before the House committee that he had had any relationship with Chambers. He was charged with perjury and was found guilty after two trials and Chambers presentation of the so-called "Pumpkin papers" (five rolls of film he had hidden in a pumpkin. He went to prison from which he emerged in 1954 still protesting his innocence.

William Rusher, publisher of the *National Review*, said the award of the Medal of Freedom to Chambers was highly appropriate.

However Victor Havasky, editor of the left-leaning *The Nation* commented that it was disturbing that such an important award should have been given to a man who "lied on any number of occasions and had a paranoid view of the world. He could not distinguish fact from fantasy."

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SPECTRUM

Long shots in the dark

Making films is a risky business, when all there is to go on are last year's receipts. But the gamble can pay off, as David Pirie explains

"The psychology of the major movie studios," a leading Hollywood agent said, "is based on fear. The fear of making a film and flopping, or not making a film and seeing it become a hit for someone else."

Last year was another boom year for Hollywood films, but the risks in motion picture production are, if anything, more dramatic than ever.

The 10 most successful films of 1983, as reported in *Variety* magazine, generated more than half a billion dollars. These are the crucial titles of the year to Hollywood, not just because the American film audience is nearly twice as big in cash terms as the rest of the world put together, but also because the United States is the place where international audience trends are born. All of the hits listed were successful in Britain and elsewhere (with the exception of *Mr Mom*, not yet released here).

But there is a negative side to this equation: the 10 flops listed did not even take enough money between them to cover the cost of financing one major production. Their combined losses may have exceeded $100m. And some of the studios who made them, like Disney, did not produce a big enough success to balance the books.

Every studio head in Hollywood is only a few flops away from dismissal, and sudden departures are already the norm. There was a time when the longest-serving top executive had been in his post all of two weeks. There is increasing pressure to predict the taste of the highly volatile audience.

Variety's lists provide a very rough guide to the state of that taste in 1983. They are therefore a starting-point for any movie mogul who knows that it is never enough just to crank out a duplicate of the latest sensation. For one thing, decisions made now are unlikely to be tested until 1985; for another, the road to past box-office oblivion is paved with good imitations.

The least surprising success of 1983 was George Lucas's conclusion of the *Star Wars* trilogy, *Return of the Jedi*. Its income does not quite equal 1982's *ET* bonanza, but it has done as well as both its hugely successful predecessors. And its success confirms Lucas's achievment in rescuing a whole genre. Before 1977, there was not a single science fiction film among the big hits of all time – now it dominates the list.

But science fiction is not the dominant trend of 1983 – nor even the '80s. Analysing the top 10 films for each year since 1980, the most profitable genre has been comedy.

On the 1983 list there is *Tootsie*, *Trading Places*, *Mr Mom* and *48 Hours*, which is as much comedy as thriller. The basic formula is the same: put Dan Aykroyd in hippie gear inside a swank Manhattan club in *Trading Places*; put black actor Eddie Murphy in cop uniform inside a redneck bar in *48 Hours*; put Michael Keaton in an apron in front of an ironing-board in *Mr Mom*; put Dustin Hoffman in drag in *Tootsie* – 1980s' comedies seem to be overwhelmingly concerned with social and sexual role-switching.

It is tempting also to trace the equally recurrent theme of upward social mobility to the economic climate. *Trading Places*, for example, in which a wealthy tycoon changes places with a black down-and-out, is inspired by the comic social fables that were popular during the depression of the 1930s. But out-and-out lunacy is a vital added ingredient of these films, as if their audience refuses to take either sex, or the 1980s depression, too seriously.

The happy ending, which went out of fashion in the 1960s, now seems essential. This caused a problem for the makers of *War Games*, which is based on the idea of a teenage computer freak who gains access to a computer controlling the United States' nuclear defences. Its original script ended with nuclear Armageddon. But its backers, MGM/UA, thought such an ending unacceptable.

The director was fired and the script was rewritten so that the teenager convinces the generals that their nuclear strategy is dangerous. The US Air Force was still outraged, complaining that the film "distorted information". But, for all its brainless generals, it contrived to be optimistic about humanity. Its backers were duly rewarded.

Even *Superman III* developed the comic potential of the series, adding Richard Pryor to the caped superhero going to seed. Given the present climate, this might have seemed a very shrewd commercial move. But director Richard Donner had made the first two *Superman* movies successful by taking the character seriously. *Superman III's* earnings appear to prove Donner right, because the film earned far less than its predecessors.

The notion of social improvement, apparent in last year's *An Officer And A Gentleman*, makes its most serious appearance in 1983 in the list's only two musicals. Jennifer Beals in *Flashdance* is, of all things, a Pittsburgh steelworker who's striving to win a place at the local ballet school.

This may sound possible, until you realized that membership of the Pittsburgh steel union has become so restricted that it would be quite extraordinary for someone with only a passing interest to get there in the first place. But then, *Flashdance* is essentially a glossy musical fantasy, greatly helped by the success of its songs.

Staying Alive succeeded not because of its mediocre Bee Gees soundtrack, nor because it starred John Travolta. If that sounds unrealistic, remember that Travolta came to *Staying Alive* after three box-office flops. Sylvester Stallone, *Staying Alive's* director, responded by making Travolta's comeback the covert subject of the whole movie, then pacing it with the furious energy that made Stallone's *Rocky* pictures so successful.

Stallone transformed Travolta, the former idol of *Saturday Night Fever* who had slumped to the star of *Blow Out*, which forced its distributor into liquidation, into a money-maker again. *Staying Alive* is less a sequel to *Saturday Night Fever* than a musical *Rocky*, using every technique to milk audience identification with the struggle of the central character. The critics hated it, but like so much of Stallone's work, *Staying Alive* is one of those films which refuses to let the critics get between it and its audience.



Figures represent the 1983 rental returned by the cinemas to the studio who made the film

Known production costs in brackets. Promotion can cost between $8m-$20m for each film

There may be a swing in Hollywood's political mood

Perhaps, taken as a whole, 1983's top 10 is almost more interesting for what is *not* on it: no horror films; no Broadway musicals; no literary adaptations; not even many–other than the perennial Bond–action/adventures or thrillers. Yet all these categories are represented on the list of flops: David Cronenberg's horror *Videodrome*, Sam Peckinpah's spy thriller *The Osterman Weekend*, the adaptation of the Broadway hit *Pirates of Penzance* and Disney's high-budget translation of Ray Bradbury's novel *Something Wicked This Way Comes*. These films have flaws, but the genres they represent are currently out of favour.

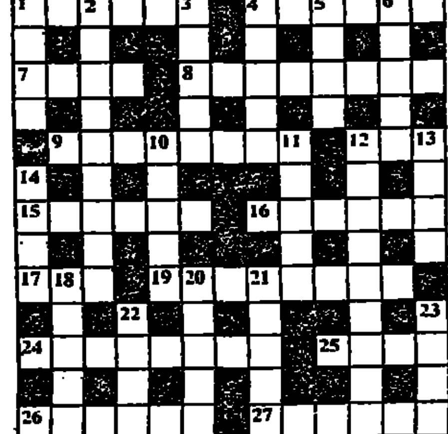
Nor was 1983 a good year for acclaimed directors. Apart from Peckinpah's unhappy comeback, Martin Scorsese *(King of Comedy)*, Francis Coppola *(Rumble Fish)* and Jack Clayton *(Something Wicked)* all backed major flops. Britain's biggest success was *Gandhi*, reaching eighteenth position in terms of earnings, though it still falls behind *Chariots of Fire*, which remains Britain's most successful film in the US.

This year the major studios will release around 100 features and almost half will be comedies. But already there are signs of a shift with the American success of a "docudrama", *Silkwood* (Meryl Streep as a real-life radiation victim), and of a tear-jerker, *Terms of Endearment* (Debra Winger dies of a fatal illness).

There may also be a swing in Hollywood's political mood. US cinema has so far resisted the right-wing political climate emanating from Washington. In 1983 we had movies critical of nuclear war strategy *(War Games)*, the US legal system *(The Verdict)*, US foreign policy on central America *(Under Fire)* and the US military *(Blue Thunder)*. The popular image projected by Hollywood remains a broadly liberal one.

But all that could change this year. One of the most striking titles on the list of forthcoming releases is *Red Dawn*. It concerns a Russian airborne invasion of a small US town, and the determined armed resistance of its inhabitants. This eccentric project is not the work of some small company, but is being released by MGM/UA and has been masterminded by Hollywood's arch right-winger, John Milius, best known for his work on the *Apocalypse Now* script.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 303)



ACROSS
1 Achieve promise (6)
4 Abundant (6)
7 Log platform (4)
8 Not individual (8)
9 Beg pity (3,5)
12 Vitality (3)
15 Prairie wolf (6)
16 Pointless (6)
17 Equal score (3)
19 16in paper (8)
24 Sacrifice (8)
25 Pile (4)
26 Oriental tower (6)
27 Waxy drawing stick (6)

DOWN
1 Sack (4)
2 Way of living (9)
3 Gosh (5)
4 Syringa (5)
5 Inordinately proud (4)
6 Soothe (5)
10 Music theme (5)
11 Belonging to you (5)
12 Stamp collecting (9)
13 Common type (4)
14 Rabbit tail (4)
18 Below (5)
10 Seance board (5)
21 Reasoned thought (5)
22 Idealized man (4)
23 Fast rotation (4)

SOLUTION TO No 302
ACROSS: 1 Stalag 5 Made 8 Lapse 9 Artisan 11 Eldorado 13 Pill 15 Gibraltar 18 Read 19 Airborne 22 Mention 23 Sugar 24 Clan 25 Laxity
DOWN: 2 Tepid 3 Lie 4 Grand National 5 Mate 6 Dossier 7 Fleet 10 Nile 12 Robe 14 Stub 15 Grapnel 16 Cram 17 Weird 20 Right 21 Sign 23 Six

moreover . . . Miles Kington

Every one a winner

This is the time of the year when the media like to give themselves awards for being so good, and we at Moreover Publications are proud to announce the results of the Moreover Press Awards for 1984.

The presentation ceremony itself will be held next week at the Sir Richard Attenborough Conference Centre, the Pork Scratchings Service Area, on the M1. A glittering selection of celebrities who would like to be seen more on TV will be there, and the proceedings will go out live that night on all channels unless Torvill and Dean are on.

We are especially pleased that all the awards, after much careful consideration, have again been given to members of the Moreover staff. They are as follows:

Reporter of the Year. Reg Nobbs, for his daily reports from Monte Carlo. Alone among the world's journalists, he has recognized that Monaco could be the next flashpoint of world trouble, a potential Beirut, and his sober but hard-hitting bulletins have kept Moreover readers better informed than any others. He receives £1,000 worth of betting chips.

Sports Journalist of the Year. Frank Nobbs, for his campaign to expose the truth about rugby football. Sheltering behind a facade of being the last sport free from money and drug problems, international rugby has become the most shatteringly boring of all major games, yet only Frank has dared say so. "How can a game in which Dusty Hare is a star be fulfilling its potential?" he asks. "How much longer can reporters go on saying: 'Although totally lacking in quality, this was a truly exciting game'? When will the laws be changed so that TV commentators will actually know why the whistle has gone? Why on earth . . ." OK, OK, Frank. That's enough. He receives a season ticket for Bath's home games.

Fashion Writer of the Year. Sukie Nobbs, for having the most colourful prose despite being the worst dressed person in the office. She receives a £500 gift voucher for any British Rail Lost Property office.

Financial Journalist of the Year. Charlie Nobbs, for having got us all shares in Reuter's. Thanks, Charlie. He has asked us not to mention his prize, but to send it straight to an address in Jersey.

Woman Journalist of the Year. James Nobbs, for being the only person brave enough in the office to volunteer to review Germaine Greer's book. He is allowed to keep it.

Promising Young Journalist of the Year. Ian Nobbs, for having provided most of the best jokes in this column over the past year and for not minding working late into the night. He receives a living wage next year.

Restaurant Writer of the Year. To our very own Tarquin Nobbs, who always refers extensively to "my companion", yet has always eaten alone and then put in expenses for two people. Nice one, Tarquin! You're fired.

Critic of the Year. Ludmilla Nobski, the only Russian critic to defect to the West. Her reports have been dazzling, mercurial, death defying. As soon as she learns to write in English, she will be a valued member of the Moreover staff. She receives a dictionary.

Grammarian of the Year. A new award, and the only one ever to be given to a reader, this goes to Major Harold Randall-Nobbs, who has written to us every time we have printed "the *hoi polloi*", "flaunting the regulations". Anyway, he receives a gold-plated waste paper basket.

Column of the Year. As usual, this has been the hardest award to decide, as it involves a prize of £2,000. As usual, the judges deliberated hard and long. As usual, they decided not to award the prize this year but to blue the money themselves, in the finest tradition of Moreover journalism.

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Caroline Moorehead talks to Mary Wesley, novelist and recluse

A secretive 70-year-old shocker

To produce a justly admired, big-selling first novel at 70 is a feat greatly to be envied, particularly when it is inspired by need and surrounded by extreme modesty. Mary Wesley, whose second novel, *The Camomile Lawn*, appears tomorrow, is as unsure and tentative about her new work as she is about all things; but by now the writing has become life, that dimension always lacking from her existence and now so pleasurable. "What is lovely", she says, "is that I'm too old to have love affairs and I really enjoy working. I simply missed out on 50 years of it."

The long period before productivity was not quite as empty as she makes it sound, nor really of her own doing. She did, in fact, start writing in her thirties, "but for myself, tearing everything up. It never occurred to me to *publish* anything". It wasn't until Antonia White caught her in the act of throwing away a manuscript that she took the whole business more seriously, and even then the two children's books she embarked on were really written to read aloud to her husband Eric in the evening, as he was by then very ill with Parkinson's disease.

"When he died, in 1970, I had a total block. It was despair. I was paralysed by having no qualifications and no money." Her youngest son was 16 and still at Dartington. "I had £50 a week to live on. I had to calculate everything. I worked sometimes for friends with an antique shop. I taught A-level French until the school discovered I wasn't trained. I made sweaters for friends who knew how impecunious I was and I flogged what little silver and jewelry I had left." Even the perfect cottage on the edge of Dartmoor, her home for 18 years, with a stream running through the garden and three acres of woods and grass had to go, not least because the car had finally fallen to pieces and she needed a new one. She sold it while lying in bed with double pneumonia, as would-be buyers traipsed through the house peering nervously at what they assumed to be a dying seller.

The break in block and fortune came together. She had been tinkering with a third children's book called *Haphazard House* (now up for the Carnegie Prize), and with what became *Jumping the Queue*, the touching and distinctly autobiographical first novel about a widow in her fifties, in love with animals and her garden, but bent on suicide. It is both funny and sexy. The confirmation that both had found publishers came the same day. She had no money for the trip to London, but it was sent to her and "despair, overnight, became euphoria".

The extreme lack of money had been very real, but it had not always been that way. Mary Wesley was the second daughter of a soldier, and spent her childhood in Europe, her mother moving firmly to France or Italy whenever the colonel got a posting to a place where the family could not go. She was nine and in Portofino when Mussolini held the first Fascist elections and no one in the village, by agreement, would vote. Mary gathered orchids and became a keen child gardener. When a friend complained that the girls were picking up regional accents, they moved to Siena, to the heart of pure-spoken Italian. There were 10 governesses in eight years.

When Mary was 14, her mother decided the moment had come to take her older daughter to join her father in India. The only son was safely at Eton. Mary was placed in a small school in St Leonards, and later for two terms in a London girls' public school. She was unhappy and learnt little. Then came a finishing school in Paris. "I came back to London to do the season. After a few weeks of parties my mother said to me: "Mary, how old are you?" Sixteen, I replied. "My God", she said. "You're *much* too young." So it was off to a domestic science school for six months, before coming out at Court.

Now followed years of enforced pleasure, the colonel being no more a believer in working women than he had been in their education. "So I did what girls like me did – nothing at all. I was told to have a good time, and I certainly did." When young men marvelled that she had never read Shaw or H. G. Wells she joined classes in international politics at the London School of Economics and listened to Czechs and Poles displaced by the Treaty of Versailles arguing bitterly, "in a permanent, seething state of rage".



Mary Wesley: "I have trained people not to drop in".

Not long before war broke out she became engaged to an Irish peer, Baron Swinfen. The marriage did not long survive the war, but by then she had two sons and had met the man who was to become her second husband, a journalist called Eric Siepmann, with whom she was, by contrast, exceedingly happy. From France, where he was stationed at the end of the war he sent her Aragon's poems to translate. Siepmann was not as successful a writer as he should have been, but the family moved often, with Mary Wesley attempting to send back articles for publication in reluctant British newspapers.

When the Dartmoor cottage was sold, she moved in to a very tall, solid, stone house in the middle of Totnes, with the castle behind and the Midland Bank in front. It is light, full of books and nice china and cosy: but there is no garden and no animal. "I just can't see myself training a new puppy in my nightdress in the middle of the night in the streets of Totnes." Mary Wesley is a neat, handsome woman with a square face and heavy white hair: her manner is both purposeful and shy, hesitant and firm. She dismisses her past and her family with a kind of affectionate contempt. "I have become totally secretive", she says. "I live a hermit's existence. I have trained people not to drop in and not to telephone." Why, I asked her, is the name on her books Wesley? "Ah" she said, with enjoyment, "that is a pseudonym. I knew people would be shocked by *Jumping the Queue*. They'll be a great deal more shocked by *The Camomile Lawn*. When you reach my age you must be able to say what you like."

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

To sleep, perchance to split the atom

Child myth number 279: those who sleep badly are dynamic and creative and destined to become top nuclear physicists, concert pianists and cabinet ministers of their day, while those who sleep well can expect little more than a steady livelihood as a filing clerk in a minor insurance company.

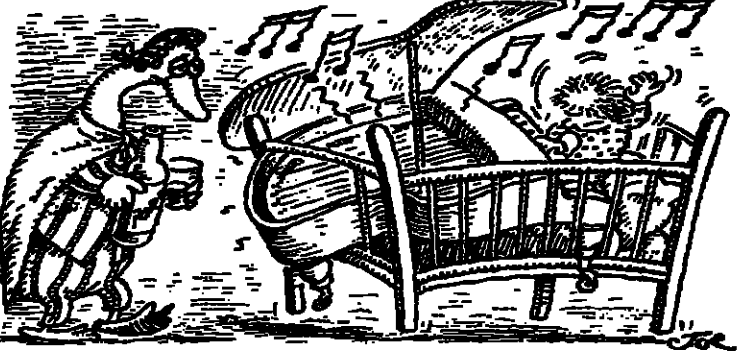
It is such a popular myth that at times it threatens to harden into a cliché, but never quite makes the transition since clichés are three-quarters truth and myths three-quarters fiction. No doubt the person who first made this equation between insomnia and high achievement had the purest motives of charity or desperation. The trouble is that we have all taken him (or her) too literally and feel we are the victims of some gross genetic rip-off when the little wakeaholics mature into dunces.

Most parents I know have at some time or other had chronically broken nights and lain awake like passengers on the slow train to dawn. If all these families believed they were harbouring the next Einstein, John Ogden or Geoffrey Howe, there would certainly be some very rude awakenings in the pipeline.

I am happy to report that my horrible lawyer friend, Parvis Maitland, is having broken nights, thanks to his four-year-old son. Whenever he goes into the child's bedroom to remonstrate, still bleary with port, the boy is ready with a cogent defence for the motion that it is not in fact, two in the morning but four in the afternoon and time for *Playschool*. No doubts about *his* future: it has to be the bar.

Just a codicil on that latest and most disastrous visit by Great Aunt Sylvia from Beckenham. Leafing back to my entry on the subject, I sense contrition on my part, just because a child's expletive went undeleted. Given that I deplore the Great Aunt's values, and she mine, this is an absurd waste of remorse. True, her face looked as though it has just swallowed a year's supply of umbrage; true, her huff arrived and she went off in it (destination: High Dudgeon). But in the seven short days (a long time in politics) which have since passed, I have suddenly grasped what I should have grasped years ago, namely, that I don't care. I just don't care.

She came here, as she always does, bent on sinister discoveries about The New Childhood, and we have satisfied her. These she can now relay on her tissue-thin blue airmail leaves to the most distant limbs of the family. All small children exist to incur the displeasure of someone who is irrelevant to them, and so I should delight in filling an old heart with happiness. More than this, I should thank the ancient relative for the sense of liberation which I now feel, but somehow I know that my largesse would only be misunderstood. Instead, I shall just wait for her next self-invitation, which will not be long in coming.



A family has just moved into River Street. I don't know their names, but think of them as the sub-Sloanes. They all have green wellingtons which never get muddy and own an Old English Sheepdog called Tarquin, who is a parody of the species. The father strides into the park with a shooting stick and pristine deerstalker. The rumour is that, far from being Something in the City, as you must in order to be a fully paid-up Sloane, he is a bit-part actor who did quite well out of *Crown Court* and *General Hospital*.

It is their clear intention to raise the tone of the neighbourhood; no sooner had they arrived than the small terraced house sprouted brass carriage lamps and a bay window panes like the base of a wine bottle. It all looks disgustingly bogus to me, not to mention anti-social, so determined are they to distance themselves from the style of their chosen road. As always in these matters, it is the children who speak tacit volumes. There is a boy of seven at my daughter's school who has let it be known that he will not be honouring the borough with his presence at the secondary education stage. Instead, he is being sent away to Daddy's old school, which I gather is some frightful jail of a place in deepest Dorset. His elder brother is already there and having what adults would probably refer to as a nervous breakdown. It occurs to me, uncharitably I know, that the sub-Sloanes could raise the tone of the place still further if they exiled themselves, as well as their children, on a permanent basis.

But to younger matters: Beatrix Potter is a good deal older than Great Aunt Sylvia ever will be, yet her humanized animals – or are they animalized humans? – grow fresher by the generation. Jemima is no mere duck who ploshed about the lanes of Far Sawrey in the days before the motor car. She is a universal type and we can find her grafted into all manner of frames and characters today.

For example, there is a very old woman in Orchard Road who really does seem to waddle and quack, and so my children have christened her Jemima. As she came towards us this morning on our way to school, my daughter was planning to hail her by this name. I tried to dissuade her by asking her how she would like it if a stranger came up to her *and said "Hello Mrs Tittlemouse". But she just hooted with laughter and said it would be great fun. So much for the rational approach. Anyway, as we came within a couple of yards of her, the old woman looked down, exclaimed "Hello Duckie!", and waddled on, leaving my daughter silent all the way to the school gate. A record.*

I am not the only one to find contemporary relevance in the pages of Beatrix Potter. A friend suggests to me that Tabatha Twitchett is Mrs Thatcher to the life, and I hurry back to the text. Well, yes; there is T Twitchett berating Tom Kitten and his grubby playmates for coming unscrubbed to the tea table, and declaiming, with all the peak of a thwarted Euro-statesman, the words: "I am affronted!" Unfortunately this is not a political diary, but there is a thesis here, to be sure.

THE TIMES COOK

Salad days all the year round



Shona Crawford Poole

It is a myth that summer is the best time for salads. True, there are home produced tomatoes and lettuces grown in real earth that, weather willing, will have soaked up a few real sunbeams too. And the most exciting tastes in herbs are summer ones, although some of the excitement may be on account of their seasonal scarcity.

By summer the whole endive family, from pale spears of chicory through ruby radicchio, to bright green frizzy, will have disappeared from greengrocers' counters and market stalls. Corn salad or lamb's lettuce, another winter treat, is nowhere to be seen. The fennel bulbs and fat red peppers imported from other people's summers are always hardest to come by when ours is at its height and an appetite for salad is universal.

Some of the best winter and year-round salads are first courses which can stand frequent repetition.

Italian grocer shops and delicatessens are the likeliest sources of fresh mozzarella cheese. The finest is said to be made in southern Italy from the milk of water buffalo, but the kind available here is invariably made from cows' milk. It has a smooth, bouncy texture which stops short of rubbery, and a clean, slightly sour taste. Mozzarella's special quality is to melt creamily on top of pizza. Uncooked, and served with sliced tomatoes, it is a marvellously fresh-tasting prelude to simply cooked pasta, or grilled meat or fish.

Mozzarella and tomato salad
Serves two to three

- 3 ripe tomatoes
- 1 small, ripe avocado
- 170g (6oz) mozzarella

For the dressing

- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon wine vinegar
- ½ teaspoon dry mustard
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped (optional)

Dip the tomatoes briefly in boiling water to loosen the skins and peel them. Cut them in thick slices.

Cut the avocado in halves and remove the stone and skin. Slice the flesh thickly.

Cut the mozzarella in slices of a thickness compatible with the tomatoes and avocado.

Arrange the sliced fruit and cheese attractively on individual plates. Combine the dressing ingredients and shake them well together. Trickle the dressing generously over the salad and serve it with plenty of hot, crusty french bread.

To vary this salad omit the avocado and sprinkle the cheese and tomatoes with a few slivers of salted anchovy, with small, pungent black olives or with capers. Fresh herbs, especially basil, but also coriander are good, too.



The same thick, mustardy vinaigrette dressing used in the last recipe unites warm new potatoes and crunchy greenstuffs in a satisfyingly earthy salad. Alternatively, this simple combination of ingredients may be garnished with crisp chunks of smoked bacon, and the rendered bacon fat used to make a hot dressing. Chopped, hard-boiled egg is an additional garnish for either version.

Warm potato salad
Serves four

- 450g (1lb) small new potatoes
- 1 clove garlic, peeled
- ½ head curly or frizzy endive, or a small iceberg lettuce

For the dressing

- 110g (4oz) smoked streaky bacon, cubed
- 2 tablespoons wine vinegar
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Scrub the potatoes and boil or steam them in their skins until they are tender.

Rub a large bowl with a cut clove of garlic and add the drained potatoes to it. Keep warm.

Put the chopped bacon in a cold pan and heat slowly, increasing the heat as the fat begins to melt. Cook until the bacon is crisp, then remove it with a slotted spoon and add it to the potatoes. Add the leaves to the salad bowl.

Stir the vinegar into the hot bacon fat, and season the dressing with salt (if needed) and plenty of black pepper. Pour the dressing over the salad and turn the greenstuff and potatoes in the dressing to coat them well.

Serve the salad immediately on warm plates.

Leeks vinaigrette may be served lukewarm or cold. For this dish the smallish leeks widely available now are particularly suitable.

Leeks vinaigrette
Serves four

- 680g (1½lbs) young leeks

For the dressing

- 2 hard-boiled egg yolks
- ¼ teaspoon mustard
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons wine vinegar
- 120ml (4fl oz) olive oil

Trim the roots and coarse outer leaves from the leeks so that the prepared vegetables are approximately equal in length and thickness. Slit each leek lengthwise to within a handspan of its base and wash.

Tie the leeks into three or four bundles – tape is better than string for the binding – and cook them for about 15 minutes, or until tender, in boiling salted water. Drain. Loosen the bundles and drain the leeks well before arranging them on plates.

Mix the crumbled egg yolks, mustard, salt, pepper and vinegar to a smooth paste then gradually mix in the oil to make a thick dressing. Check the seasoning and spoon the dressing over the leeks.

Really fresh mushrooms which are tightly shut have a crisp texture that has underexploited salad potential. Wipe the mushrooms clean and trim the stalks level with the caps before slicing them quite thinly.

Serve the slices with two dressings. Salted creme fraiche or soured cream, or fresh cream and yogurt mixed is one dressing. The second should be a vinaigrette made with fresh lemon juice. A little walnut oil, mixed with an almost tasteless oil like peanut or sunflower oil, is particularly good.

Under the shadow of a bully

FIRST PERSON

Lynn Peters

"I hate school." Gemma spoke with such vehemence that we all looked up in surprise. We were in the middle of Christmas dinner and school had been far from the minds of everyone else. "I thought it looked a lovely school", said her grandmother gently. "Why don't you like it?" But Gemma was not to be drawn. "I hate it", was all she would say.

Of course it is not unusual for a child of four and a half to dislike school, but the odd thing in Gemma's case was that she had always loved it and looked forward to it with an eagerness unequalled by almost any other activity. If she was unwell I would say it was a school holiday, otherwise she would cry at being unable to go. The transition from playgroup to nursery school, and nursery to infants' school was accomplished without any kind of trauma, but, during her first term at infants we moved away from the area and within a week of starting at her new school she had developed a fear and dislike of it that we could not have imagined previously. In the mornings she would become quiet and withdrawn as we approached the school and when it was time for me to leave she would cling to my legs and cry in what seemed like terror.

Each afternoon I took to checking with the teacher on Gemma's progress for that day. She did not seem greatly happier during the rest of the day than at the start of it, but reasons for her unhappiness were not difficult to find and we were mostly agreed on what they were: she had changed schools mid-term when other children had already settled and formed friendships; she had come from a school of only 150 infants to a primary twice that size and at which she was the youngest; she had lost contact with old friends and familiar surroundings; and she had recently had a small operation which we had been warned could leave her feeling depressed. So we consoled ourselves with the thought that Gemma's reaction was largely explicable.

But she did not settle down. Christmas came and went and with it went our hope that the new term would bring an improvement. If anything she was becoming more distressed. I decided that if between us we could find no answer to Gemma's problems than I should have to consider taking her away.

It was several days before I could see the teachers and in the meantime Gemma mentioned that she had cried at dinnertime and had been moved to a different seat. "Why did the dinner lady move you?" I asked, puzzled. "Ricky kept upsetting me", she said. She rarely mentioned children by name but I remembered hearing of Ricky before and as I pondered, various other unrelated incidents came to mind. "Don't you like Ricky?" I probed. "I hate him", she replied and after some persuasion added sorrowfully, "He calls me pudding face".

I knew that Ricky was not in her class so I wondered how she had come into contact with him. "He's on my table at dinner", she explained. I had not realized that the children had their seats allocated at meal times: always the same seat at the same table, so here was a perfect opportunity for an older child to intimidate a younger in a relatively unsupervised situation.

As an experiment I asked for Gemma to be moved to a different table. And the child I met at the school gates that afternoon was a changed personality. She was cheerful, excited to tell me the day's happenings, and for the first time began to talk with enthusiasm of the other children she knew. The following morning she cried briefly, the next day not at all. She let go of my hand voluntarily and was gone without a glance.

During this period I met with Gemma's teachers and I was reassured to discover that the staff were as concerned as I was to help Gemma settle down and intended to monitor the situation.

Thankfully, I am now once again the mother of a well adjusted and cheerful schoolchild but it was sheer chance that the solution came to light when it did and I wonder how long the problem might otherwise have persisted.

I had thought that perhaps I was at fault for not pressing Gemma more closely to discuss her fears but a friend who, as a young child, was the victim of bullying, tells me that this would probably not have worked. "It's not something you can bear to talk about", she told me. "It's too painful and too humiliating".

THE ARTS

Clifford Odets is emerging from eclipse after once being hailed America's best playwright since Eugene O'Neill: **Paul Moor** reports from San Francisco

Daring dramatist of the Depression

A superlative production of Clifford Odets's 1935 drama *Awake and Sing!* at the Berkeley Repertory Theater, across the bay from San Francisco, provides the latest instalment in the extraordinary revival of interest in the early work of this American dramatist laureate of those hideous depression years which followed the Wall Street crash of 1929. By last autum the phenomenon of this revival had attracted the attention of the New York weekly *Variety*, which reported productions of *Rocket to the Moon* and *The Country Girl* in London, as well as American productions of *Paradise Lost*, *Golden Boy* and *Night Music*.

Odets died in 1963 – in Hollywood, where he had long since turned his back on his early, revolutionary plays in favour of assembling screenplays which brought him a princely income but also, from more than one disappointed critic, the accusatory question, "Odets, where is thy sting?". His earlier plays, though, had marked a turning point in American theatre, and many had hailed him, at that time, as America's best dramatist since Eugene O'Neill. Later Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams eclipsed him and only this current spate of revivals has brought him to the attention of an entire new generation which probably had never even heard his name before.

Odets sprang, amazingly full-panoplied, directly from the head of that extraordinary New York theatrical collective known as The Group, which, under the leadership of Lee Strasberg and Harold Clurman, had introduced into America the Konstantin Stanislavsky method of acting and made major theatrical history for a single decade. Thereafter the siren song of Hollywood depleted its acting company and rising costs of production forced it out of business.

The literary agent who today handles Odets's works has her own theory about the revival of interest in his plays. "He spoke of hope," she says, "and I think people are eager for that kind of positive message. All his plays have a dark side, but he saw a favourable light and a life to reach for." Odets wrote of working-class people battling with might and main to survive unprecedentedly hard economic times, and he implied that only revolution would bring salvation. He did in fact take the title of his first full-length play from Isaiah 26:19 ("Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust!"), but behind it, unmistakably, rang the epochal apostrophe of Karl Marx.

Today, 49 years later, the Census Bureau in Washington has just announced that 34,000,000 Americans subsisted below the poverty level in 1982. The very day *Awake and Sing!* opened at the Berkeley Rep, *The Washington Post* reported: "The nation's leading mayors ... told a House [of Representatives] sub-committee hearing that hunger and homelessness are increasing in most major cities...". Such facts make the current Odets's revival perhaps not so remarkable after all.

Odets, who had left school at 14, joined The Group as an actor, but he first attracted attention, and smashingly, with his first play, in one act, *Waiting for Lefty*, set in a Taxi Drivers' Union meeting hall; by 1938 it had almost countless productions, all over the world, and Odets called it "a kind of light machine-gun that you wheeled in whenever there was a strike". (Later, in a parody entitled *Waiting for Santy*, S. J. Perelman distilled, in one sentence, the least felicitous side of Odets's style when he had his hero ardently declare to his girl "I got a belly full of moonbeams".)

In 1932, sitting on the edge of his bed in the smallest, coldest room of "The Group Poorhouse", his portable typewriter on his knees, Odets had written a play, *I Got the Blues*. Harold Clurman read it and rejected it; he found it "too personal; too bitter, too doubled over with pain". Rewritten, as *Awake and Sing!*, it contained, in Alfred Kazin's words, the "lyric uplifting of blunt Jewish speech, boiling over and explosive" which would also characterize the subsequent plays Odets set in that Bronx milieu he had grown to know in childhood.

Joy Carlin, Acting Artistic Director of the Berkeley Rep, has staged a production which would grace any theatrical metropolis, one which exemplifies the extraordinary standards which have made this company not only a regional but a national treasure. Irving Israel as the immigrant socialist grandfather, Suzanne Shepherd as the martriarch whom economic pressures have transformed into a fury, and Tony Amendola as Moe Axelrod, a wounded veteran of the First World War, stand out especially in an exemplary ensemble cast.

The San Francisco Bay area fairly seethes at present with theatrical creativity. On the one hand, the adventurously experimental Antenna Theater, which has appeared at the Holland Festival and in five German cities, has just taken a fascinating step with *Amnesia*, in which each member of the limited audience, equipped with a Sony Walkman and earphones, proceeds to move through the play's environment and become directly involved, together with the masked actors, in the dramatic story – a technological innovation of enormous future possibilities.

On the other hand, sadly, the Berkeley Stage, another brilliant experimental company, has just closed down for good. Its last productions included *Soul Murder*, a dazzling multimedia realization of "the Schreber case" which Sigmund Freud made famous. Now the company has died, a casualty of the same economic vice which crushed the life out of The Group – that experimental company without which we would probably never have had Clifford Odets.



Dinner at the Bergers' in *Awake and Sing!* including Irving Israel as Jacob (in braces) and Suzanne Shepherd as Bessie (far end of table)

Opera

Muti reveals the beauty and brilliance

I Capuleti e i Montecchi
Covent Garden



Clive Barda

Giulietta (Edita Gruberova, right) awakens and finds her poisoned Romeo (Agnes Baltsa)

The mud Berlioz threw at *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*, Bellini's Romeo and Juliet opera, after a performance he happened to catch in Florence in the early 1830s, certainly stuck. After riling against casting Romeo as a mezzo Berlioz complained, among other things, that there was no ball at the Capulets', no Mercutio, no nurse, no balcony, "no Shakespeare, nothing – a wasted opportunity". These are among the reasons, apart from the difficulty of casting the two major roles, why Bellini's work has not been seen at Covent Garden since 1848.

Fortunately it has returned in a performance that is so distinguished musically that a great deal of the Berlioz mud is likely to be washed away. The cleanser-in-chief is Riccardo Muti, who puts the lie once and for all to the assertion that Bellini was a weak and slipshod orchestrater. (That belief has been fostered by the all-too-frequent practice, recently, of placing Bellini's operas, Norma apart, into the hands of second-rank conductors.) Muti is a conductor of the very first rank and, after an overture taken at a pace ferocious enough to endanger the orchestra's wind and limb, he settled to reveal the beauties of Bellini's score, the greatest of which are to be found among the passages for cellos, horns and clarinets. [illegible] quent – which means very eloquent indeed, in the preludes to those arias and duets Bellini gives to his Romeo and Giulietta.

The lead into Giulietta's opening Cavatina, "Oh quante volte", the most familiar number in the score, set the highest standard for orchestral playing and that was maintained for the rest of the evening. The solo instruments, especially the horns, were on their very best behaviour, but the true quality came from Muti's constant feel for the pulse of the music, a suave silkiness which never falls into the trap of languor. The only regret was that a couple of years ago Covent Garden failed to net Muti as their next music director while La Scala only last week succeeded.

However, Covent Garden can take the credit for resisting any temptation to recast Romeo as a tenor, as happened when the opera toured around Europe, including a visit to the Edinburgh Festival in the mid-Sixties. And they have engaged a pair of singers as the star-cross'd lovers in every way worthy of their conductor: Edita Gruberova, making an unwontedly late debut at the Opera House, and Agnes Baltsa. Gruberova's Giulietta is a fluffy blonde, pining for her darkly handsome Romeo – in purely physical terms these two *had* to come from separate Veronese tribes.

On the first night she was a shade below her very best vocal form, but getting the heartbeat of "Oh quante volte" or the very slow tempo and pianissimi of Giulietta's Act II aria before she takes the sleeping draught requires a very different vocal technique to pinging out Zerbinetta's merry songs as Mme Gruberova does year by year in Salzburg's *Ariadne*. Gruberova was constantly stimulated to excel when Agnes Baltsa's lovelorn Romeo was by her side, whether in the Act 1 finale (which even Berlioz was forced to admire), where the two female voices soar above the confrontation of their respective families, or in the Tomb Scene where death comes swiftly, some would say perfunctorily, and for once, as in Tebaldo (Tybalt) who is left alive.

Agnes Baltsa held back a little in her opening aria as Romeo l'uccise", in which Romeo arrives at the Capulets' disguised as the Montagues' ambassador, one of the few improbabilities in Romani's compact adaptation for Bellini of one of his earlier libretti. Thereafter her interpretation was beyond reproach. The figure was intense and brooding, a little like Mrs Patrick Campbell in one of her meatier roles, in love here with but one woman, for there is no hint of Rosaline. The darkness of the tones, consistent throughout the register, made nonsense of those who argue for a tenor Romeo. Covent Garden will be lucky to hear a better individual performance this season.

The one tenor among the principals was Dano Raffanti, a roly-poly, clean-voiced performer, not very Tebaldo-like in a role which does not offer much opportunity after his aria is completed. Pavarotti, though, thought it worthwhile singing during some of those mid-Sixties *Capuleti*. Gwynne Howell and John Tomlinson were thoroughly respectable as the head of the Capulets and Lorenzo, here no friar but just the family physician.

Pier-Luigi Pizzi provided his own sets, which took a very vertical view of Verona: polished marble pillars gilded at head and foot which moved according to the location, a glimpse of well-trimmed cypresses, huge and ample-buttocked guardian angles at Giulietta's tomb. It was a highly polished classical view of a romantic story, which is the property of Italy as well as Shakespeare. His staging was equally formal, with a refusal to put false action into a fairly static opera. As such it was thoroughly musical and a mirror reflection of Bellini's florid score.

There are weaknesses in *Capuleti*, of course. A lack of eroticism for one. Bellini's reluctance to respond to what Pougin, one of the composer's earliest biographers, called the *situations pathétiques*. But the rewards for mezzo, soprano and orchestra are tremendous and Baltsa, Gruberova and Muti seized them all. It is to be hoped that a record company is there in the wings taking everything down.

John Higgins

Television

Codes of conduct

The axiom that it is the poor who get the blame is enshrined in song, and to this lamentable truth Stephen Fagan's comedy Under the Hammer, on BBC1 last night, only appeared to add the rider that subservience does not help. This play, which poked around the potential for venality in a London art dealer's, did much to raise optimism about *Play for Today*, which seemed bent on continuing depression.

Mr Fagan has an acute ear for dialogue on both sides of the tracks. On the one hand there were the mannered, coded exchanges between the gallery's managing director (Michael Aldridge) and its chief art expert (James Maxwell); on the other the equally mannered and coded communications between the below-stairs staff, the porters.

The gallery was on the eve of a major sale with an impending Royal visit and a suspect Van Gogh, whose status was further threatened when it received a damaging kick by the head porter (Peter Vaughan), a man who knew his station, in the course of a row with a communist colleague (Robert Putt). What followed was a conspiracy to ensure that all was well on the day, which involved the surreptitious services of an eccentric but brilliant art restorer adeptly played by Peter Bayliss. He saved the day but not the head porter's job.

It was very funny indeed, the humour sustaining the tricky introduction of a Princess Di lookalike. All the cast were splendid and Richard Wilson's direction took skilful advantage of Mr Fagan's invention. Michael Wearing produced.

BBC2's Arena gave us Jerry Lee Lewis, who first told us that there was a Whole Lot of Shakin' Going On in the Fifties and was then shown in action. Now 47, he is still shaking and, though the years have fled, he can still afford pianos severe chastisement.

His renowned eccentricity has suffered no diminution. He manifests this not only is his style but by a series of incomprehensible asides to his audience and colleagues and, in this performance, by suddenly hurling away his glasses – he might call them shades – to reveal a pair of eyes that told their own story.

Those who seek to soothe their savage breasts by things other than "Chantilly Lace" and "Great Balls of Fire" might well have found themselves too mesmerized by this manic display to fumble for the remote control and seek calmer waters.

Dennis Hackett

Concerts

Capturing the imaginative moment

Georgian/Benson
St John's/Radio 3

Metamorphosis lay at the heart of Monday's BBC lunchtime recital by the cellist Karine Georgian and the pianist Clifford Benson. Embedded between Beethoven and Brahms came a recent piece by Lutoslawski, the *Grave (Metamorphoses)*, a short, single-movement work written in 1981.

Out of a sombre, fragile cell in the cello's darkest register, a long, propulsive accelerando emerges as the cello labours and bites against the piano's percussive promptings. As the two instruments begin to [illegible], the accelerando gets almost imperceptibly under way only to return, after a brief efflorescence, to one last wispy harmonic, all that remains of its opening chrysalis.

Georgian and Benson captured vividly its imaginative moment, just as earlier they had enjoyed the more playful transformations of Beethoven in his Variations on "Bei Männern" from *The Magic Flute*. Here cello and piano gently shifted the work out of opera reminiscence and into its own strong inventive identity.

At first Ms Georgian initiated an aerial duet, both within her own instrument's shy low register and tender high voice and also in skittish dance with Mr Benson's characteristically imaginative piano part. As the work progressed, details like the tiny subtle mood changes brought about through ornamentation made this a particularly delightful and memorable performance.

And if, in the Beethoven and Lutoslawski, attention was turned, creditably, to the works themselves, then in the Brahms F major Sonata, Op 99, the distinctive qualities of Karine Georgian's own performing character emerged.

She has a rare ability to draw in and sustain attention at every moment: by vibrato and rubato strongly and sparely tailored to the music's expressive purposes; by a willingness to bite deep into the music's structure, and then to project it with keen immediacy of response. The recital will be repeated next Sunday at 1.05 pm on Radio 3.

Hilary Finch

Philharmonia/Davis
Festival Hall

Elgar's *Coronation Ode* for Edward VII is rarely heard these days, and so we had good reason to be grateful to the Friends of the Philharmonia for sponsoring this resurrection of the work under Andrew Davis's fervent direction. A period piece of stirring patriotism the work may be, but it contains some excellent music. The opening chorus, "Crown the King with life", for example, is almost symphonic in proportion, going far beyond the apparent requirements of A. C. Benson's text. "The Queen" and "Daughter of Ancient Kings", the two hymns that follow, are wonderfully reflective, entirely devoid of bombast, while the final "Land of Hope and Glory" makes the original seeting of that tune in the first *Pomp and Circumstance* march seem artificial.

This performance did the music an admirable service. Of the quartet of solo singers, Maldwyn Davies and Isobel Buchanan alternated magically in "Hark upon the hallowed air" while Buchanan and Alfreda Hodgson were a sublime duet in the first chorus. And Brian Rayner-Cook manfully did what was necessary in "Britain, ask of thyself", whose bellicose naivety today seems rather tasteless. Strength and subtlety abounded, too, in the contributions of the Philharmonia Chorus and Orchestra.

Before this work, we heard two contrasting but equally outmoded approaches to Bach. The Fifth Brandenburg Concerto, which Davis directed from the harpsichord, was adequately scaled down but received a rather shoddy performance, with Raymond Ovens's violin playing suffering from poor intonation, Kenneth Smith's flute from lack of character, and the whole from inordinately seamless phrasing.

Given with much larger forces, the cantata *Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben* took us back to the days when it was thought better to obscure Bach's counterpoint, despite some graceful solo singing and the fine obbligatos of Gordon Hunt's oboe d'amore and John Wallace's trumpet.

Stephen Pettitt

London debuts

Intrusion

At a pianist's debut recital one hardly expects to hear a work with saxophone replacing the central piece of the programme. In a barely hour-long concert the Lebanese pianist Walid Howrani substituted his own *Exotica* for Rachmaninov's Corelli Variations. Much as I was impressed by Linda Frye Chaikin's saxophone-playing, I did not think that the rest of the programme warranted such a change.

Beethoven's C major Sonata, Op 2 No 3, was uninspired and often mannered and a Debussy group lacked both colour and poetic refinement (though technical accomplishment in *L'Isle joyeuse* was undeniable).

The British violinist Abigail Rushworth, on the other hand, if a little erratic, still managed to convey a well-schooled musicianship and a flair for her instrument. Her recital was built around Brahms's D minor Sonata and Bach's G minor solo Sonata. Michael Dussek contributed piano accompaniments that had a stabilizing effect. In the Brahms they produced the spacious phrasing and warm-toned sentiment that is of the composer's essence. I especially liked Miss Rushworth's fluent bowing in the Bach, and here she scored a real triumph in the fugue, where dynamic shading of the voices was ideal.

Einar Henning Smebye from Norway appeared as duo partner of the violinist Vanya Milanova, and he managed to match her golden sonorities with some innocently lyrical piano playing, though Grieg's C minor Sonata was as notable for its assertiveness as for the more familiar reflective mood. Smebye was a little weak on technique in demanding rhythmical passages; but he and Milanova scored a success in introducing Thommessen's essentially traditional piece "Please accept my ears".

James Methuen-Campbell

Rock

John Hiatt
Dingwalls

When John Hiatt was in Britain last autumn his solo performances gave us several glimpses of some singular talents without quite revealing them entirely.

His recent visit – only two shows, alas – was far more satisfactory. The addition of a fine backing band, including Scott Matthews, the versatile musician whom Hiatt used on his excellent album *Riding With the King*, provided this fugitive from Indianapolis with a more flexible backdrop for an astonishing range of atmospheres.

Hiatt is one of American rock's great vocal interpreters. His phrasing and delivery are soaked in soul traditions that encompass anything from Sam Cooke to Curtis Mayfield and Al Green, yet these reference points are expanded upon through his own writing style, a razor-sharp combination of fictional drama and bitter-sweet romance. His most memorable characters are compulsive losers torn straight from the pages of pop pulp.

As a songwriter Hiatt has few peers in America. Quite apart from his understanding of R & B, a rich vein of the sleazier aspects of country and pure pop runs through his pen. His is the only decent alternative interpretation of Elvis Presley behind Graceland's closed doors, but he can also dwell amongst the more prosaic characters of "You May Already Be a Winner", life as an eternal television quiz show, or the poor little Los Angeles rich girls of "Pink Bedroom".

The guest guitarist David Lindley, like Hiatt a regular member of Ry Cooder's film-score bands, gave him a chance to demonstrate his clean rhythmic approach, but it was the menace of his best disenchanted numbers like "She Loves the Jerk" and "Say It With Flowers" that took Hiatt and his band into sublime overdrive. It is absurd that John Hiatt remains a cult figure when his writing should be gracing the mainstream. Bring him back soon, please.

Max Bell





Solicitors' restrictive covenant not unreasonable

Bridge v Deacons

Before Lord Faser of Tullybelton, Lord Wilberforce, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill and Lord Templeman

[Judgment delivered March 26]

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council held that a covenant in a solicitors' partnership agreement whereby a partner who ceased to be a partner was restricted for five years thereafter from acting as a solicitor in Hongkong for any client of the firm at the time he ceased to be a partner or during the preceding three years, was enforceable against him, and it was not unenforceable as being in unreasonable restraint of trade.

Their Lordships disagreed with observations made by Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, in *Oswald Hickson Collier & Co v Carter-Ruck* (unreported) in the Court of Appeal on January 20, 1982.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by the defendant, Mr Robin M. Bridge, from a decision of the Court of Appeal of Hongkong on May 3, 1983, who dismissed an appeal by the defendant from the judgment of Mr Justice Hunter, who had granted the plaintiff firm, Deacons, an interlocutory injunction restraining the defendant from acting contrary to the provisions of the covenant.

Sir Patrick Neill, QC and Mr Paul Andrew Smith for the defendant; Mr Leonard Hoffmann, QC and Mr Richard McCombe for the plaintiff firm.

LORD FRASER said that the question was whether a restrictive covenant in a partnership agreement between partners in a firm of solicitors was enforceable against one of their number who had ceased to be a partner, or whether it was unenforceable as being in unreasonable restraint of trade.

It was well established law that covenants in restraint of trade were unenforceable unless they could be shown to be reasonable in the interests of the parties, affording no more than adequate protection, and in the public interest.

It had come to be accepted that certain types of contract which imposed a measure of interference with the freedom of trade were treated as not being within the field of restraint of trade, provided that the degree of interference did not exceed the accepted standard.

One such type was the type of contract where a man sold his business with its goodwill and accepted a limitation on his right to compete. The justification for that limitation was that it enhanced the price which the vendor could obtain for his business.

Even in contracts of that type it was necessary to consider whether the restrictions on the vendor of the goodwill were fairly and properly ancillary to the sale, and if they exceeded that limit the doctrine of restraint of trade might be applied.

The other type of contract was that in which restrictions were imposed on former employees. Only in such cases much more limited restrictions were normally enforceable, and if their effect would merely be to protect the employer from competition from his former employee they would be invalid unless the circumstances were unusual.

The agreement in the present case, being one between partners, did not conform exactly to either of those types, although it had some resemblance to both. A decision on whether the restrictions in this agreement were enforceable or not could not be reached by attempting to place the agreement in any particular category, or by seeking for the category to which it was most closely analogous.

The proper approach was that adopted by Lord Reid in *Esso Petroleum Co Ltd v Harper's Garage (Stourport) Ltd* ([1968] AC 269, 301), to ascertain what were the legitimate interests of the plaintiff firm which it was entitled to protect, and whether the restraints were more than adequate for that purpose. What were the plaintiff's legitimate interests would depend largely on the nature of the business, and on the position of the defendant in the firm.

The plaintiff was one of the oldest and largest firms of solicitors in Hongkong. At the time these proceedings began it had 27 partners and employed 49 assistant solicitors.

The defendant began his connexion with the firm in 1967 when he entered its employment as an assistant solicitor. He had not previously practised as a solicitor in Hongkong. He became a salaried partner in July 1973, and was admitted a full capital partner on April 1, 1974, when he was aged about 31.

He worked generally for several partners, but fairly soon he began working for one partner, Mr Turnbull, and he developed a growing interest in intellectual and industrial property law and in the law relating to trade marks.

That was an area of the firm's practice which had been growing during the 1960s. The growth continued during the 1970s partly because industrial design copyright became actionable in Hongkong in 1973.

The defendant's invitation to join the firm as a salaried partner was given in expectation, which was fulfilled, that Mr Turnbull would the following year become a senior partner and the defendant would then become the partner responsible for that part of the practice.

An important feature of the case was that the firm was divided into a number of departments, largely separate from each other. The division had occurred as a result of the great expansion in the practice over about the past 20 years.

The division was emphasized by the fact that each file was specifically assigned to the partner who remained ultimately responsible for it.

Consequently each partner's knowledge of the firm's business tended to be concentrated on his own department.

The industrial property department was moved in about July 1981 to a separate suite of offices on a different floor. The defendant was thus physically, to some extent, cut off from the other departments. The evidence was that he had only acted for those clients of the firm who made use of the intellectual and industrial property department.

In 1981 the total delivered bills of the firm was approximately HK$132,000,000 of which only about 4.5 per cent was attributable to that department. About 10 per cent of the total number of files was marked as being the responsibility of the defendant.

Thus he had no connexion or dealings with over 90 per cent of the firm's clients, and, as he claimed, he had no advantage over any other solicitor in seeking to attract their business.

In those circumstances it was contended on behalf of the defendant that the plaintiff was not entitled to protection against him acting for clients of the firm for whom he had never acted while he was a partner, and that the plaintiff was only entitled to protect such part of its goodwill as would be threatened by him if he were to set up practice on his own account, and that part consisted only of the business which he was advantageously placed to attract because it came from clients for whom he had acted and to whom he was known.

Their Lordships did not accept that submission. The partners in the firm, as constituted from time to time, were the owners of the firm's whole assets, including its most valuable asset: goodwill.

The defendant had owned a share of the assets while he was a partner, but he transferred his share to the continuing partners when he ceased to be a partner.

The question was whether it was reasonable, as between the parties, for the plaintiff to obtain protection against appropriation by the defendant of any part of the goodwill, notwithstanding the "departmentalization" of the practice.

It was reasonable provided that the protection did not extend beyond the plaintiff's practice, and that had not been suggested.

The mutuality of the contract was a most important consideration. The contract applied equally to all the partners. None of them could tell whether he might find himself in a position of being a retiring partner subject to the restriction, or a continuing partner with an interest to enforce the restriction.

It was suggested on behalf of the defendant that a restriction which would have been reasonable between the parties would have been one restricting a retiring partner from acting for clients for whom he had personally acted or for whose work he was generally responsible by, for instance, files having been opened bearing reference to his name.

But a restriction on those lines might well be difficult to apply, particularly in the case of a client who had sought advice from several partners at different times on a variety of matters.

Moreover it might work unfairly in the case of a partner who had acted only for a small number of clients, perhaps very large clients whose business took up practically his whole time, as compared with another partner with a large number of relatively small clients.

The fundamental error in that part of the argument for the defendant was that it overlooked the fact that the firm had one single practice in which each of the partners had an interest.

They shared in the profits and losses of the partnership, and each stood to benefit to some extent from the success of each of the others in attracting clients. It might be possible that a partnership could exist in which the partners' interests were so separated as to make an agreement such as that in the present case unreasonable, but this was not such a case.

The restriction included persons who had been clients within the previous three years. That was perfectly reasonable having regard to the intermittent nature of a solicitor's employment by any particular client. There must be many regular clients of a solicitor's firm who did not have occasion to employ that firm even as often as once every three years.

The five years' limitation was also in no way unreasonable. There appeared to be no reported case where a restriction which was otherwise reasonable had been held to be unreasonable solely because of its duration.

Some weight should be given to the fact that the restriction was found in a partnership agreement which had evidently been carefully drafted and which must be taken to represent the views of experienced solicitors who would be well aware that an unduly severe restriction would be unenforceable.

One further argument against the reasonableness of the restriction, as between the parties, turned on the alleged inadequacy of the consideration provided for in the agreement. The amount paid to a retiring partner in respect of goodwill was merely nominal and was in no way related to its real value having regard to the large profits earned by the firm. It might well be that the defendant's share of the goodwill was not sold for its market value in cash, but that was immaterial. It passed to the continuing partners not by a sale for a cash consideration in 1983, but as part of the contract made in 1974.

The adequacy of the consideration and the reasonableness of the contract as between the parties had to be judged in 1974. At that date the defendant received 5 per cent share in the partnership business and all its assets, including goodwill.

In return he agreed to various conditions, one of which was that he would transfer his share in the business, including goodwill, to the continuing partners when he retired, and would thereafter not compete with them.

The value placed upon goodwill in 1974 and in 1984 might have been only nominal but there were good reasons for treating it in that way. One reason was to avoid the need to value it on each occasion, and thus to avoid much trouble and expense.

Another reason was that when a new capital partner joined a large firm he was not normally in a position to pay the full market value of his share of the goodwill, and the only practicable system was to charge him a nominal sum. It was therefore reasonable that when a partner retired he should receive only a nominal sum for his share of the business.

Accordingly the restriction was not unreasonable between the parties by reason of the consideration paid to the defendant having been inadequate.

On the question of reasonableness in the public interest, there was a clear public interest in facilitating the assumption by established solicitors' firms of younger men as partners. It benefited clients by tending to secure continuity in the practice. It also tended to encourage the entry of younger men into the profession.

Their Lordships accepted the evidence that the continuing partners in the plaintiff firm would have felt able to take on new capital partners only if they knew that in doing so they would not run the risk that the new partners would acquire a connection with clients of the firm and then depart with that part of the firm's goodwill.

Conversely the new capital partners in the firm were required to purchase their share of its goowill, but they could not reasonably be expected to do that if a retiring partner could freely remove part of the goodwill. Accordingly the restriction was reasonable in the public interest.

In *Oswald Hickson Collier & Co v Carter-Ruck* (unreported) decided in the (English) Court of Appeal on January 20, 1982, according to the transcript, Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, referring to a provision in a solicitors' partnership agreement that a retiring partner should not act for any clients of the firms said:

"I cannot see that it would be proper for a clause to be inserted in a partnership deed preventing one of the partners from acting for a client in the future. It is contrary to public policy because there is a fiduciary relationship between them.

"The client ought reasonably to be entitled to the services of such solicitor as he wishes. That solicitor no doubt has a great deal of confidential information available to him. It would be contrary to public policy if the solicitor were prevented from acting for him by a clause of this kind."

Lord Justice Kerr and Lord Justice May agreed with him.

If those dicta were intended to state a general rule, their Lordships must respectfully but emphatically decline to agree with it. It was unsupported by authority, and appeared to have been made without any reference to the fact that it was directly contrary to a considerable volume of authority, including a decision of the House of Lords in *Fitch v Dewes* ([1921] 2 AC 158).

It was also unjustified in principle. For one thing a solicitor was always (except to some extent in legal aid cases) entitled to refuse to act for a particular person, and it was difficult to see any reason why he should not be entitled to bind himself by contract not to act in future for a particular group of persons.

For another thing, the relationship of solicitor and client was not unique in being confidential. The relationships of medical men with their patients and of many other professional men with their clients were also confidential.

If there were a general rule that they could not bind themselves not to act for former clients of the firm after they had retired from a partnership, the results would be very far reaching. It had to be remembered that the clients were clients of the firm, rather than of an individual partner.

Those and other objections to treating the dicta in the *Carter-Ruck* case as being of general application were pointed out by Mr Justice Walton in *Edwards v Worboys* (unreported) on March 18, 1983, and in that case in the Court of Appeal on March 25, 1983, Lord Justice Dillon and Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, both treated the *obiter dicta* in the *Carter-Ruck* case as not being of general application. Their Lordships agreed with that view.

Their Lordships recommended that the appeal should be dismissed with costs.

Solicitors: Herbert Smith & Co; Lovell, White & King.

No costs for appellant

Lau Sik-Chun v The Queen

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council would not award a successful appellant in a criminal matter before the Board costs against the prosecution save in exceptional circumstances.

The Judicial Committee (Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Wilberforce, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Scarman and Lord Bridge of Harwich) on March 26, gave reasons for advising that an appeal from the Court of Appeal of Hongkong, which had affirmed the appellent's murder conviction, be allowed.

LORD BRIDGE said that their Lordships had been told that the costs had been provided by the appellant and his father, who were both of limited means.

No exceptional circumstances could be, nor were, suggested, and no fault in bringing the case could be attributed to the prosecution. It was merely a question of a conviction which had gone wrong in the sense that the law had been wrongly applied. Accordingly, no award of costs would be approriate.

Proof of unlicensed use not necessary

D (a Minor) v Yates

Before Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice McNeill

[Judgment delivered March 26]

The offence of using an apparatus for wireless telegraphy without a licence, contrary to section 1(1) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949, was committed where the set was available for use at any time and it was unnecessary to prove that the set had been used or that the defendant intended to use it.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held and dismissed the defendant's appeal from the dismissal by Manchester Crown Court (Judge Kershaw and a justice) of her appeal against conviction of an offence that between November 13, 1982, and November 20, 1982, the defendant did use a Superstar 360 FM CB transceiver without a licence, contrary to section 1(1).

Mr Christopher Pearson for the defendant; Mr Anthony Morris for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE KERR said that section 1(1) was also applicable to television licences.

The crown court, having considered the evidence, was not sure that the defendant had operated the set between November 13 and 20 but was sure that during that period she kept the set readily available for operation and intended to use it if the occasion arose.

The sole issue was whether to establish an offence under the section of having used an apparatus, it was necessary for the prosecution to establish that the set was switched on and transmitting and receiving during those dates.

The crown court concluded that that was not the proper meaning of "use" in that section, and that it would be virtually impossible to obtain a conviction if the operator had to be apprehended at the time the set was switched on.

Even without reference to the defendant's state of mind, that is, her intention to use the set in the future, the offence had been established by the fact that the set was available for immediate use at any time.

The word "use" should be given a broad and sensible interpretation of being available for use. It was going too far to require proof that the set was being used at the time.

Mr Justice McNeill agreed.

Solicitors: J. S. Sierzant & Co, Chorley; March Pearson & Skelton, Manchester.

Explosives UK limit

Regina v Berry

Before Lord Justice Dunn, Mr Justice Stocker and Mr Justice Jupp

[Judgment delivered March 26]

The offence under section 4 of the Explosive Substances Act 1883 did not prohibit the manufacture here of explosive substances to be used for an unlawful object outside the United Kingdom.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by John Rodney Francis Berry and quashed his conviction on May 24, 1983 in Chelmsford Crown Court (Judge Greenwood) of making explosive substances in suspicious circumstances, contrary to section 4 of the 1883 Act, for which he had been sentenced to eight years' imprisonment.

The prosecution had alleged that between January and December 1981 Mr Berry had made a quantity of electronic timers designed for use by terrorists in the construction of time-bombs, and exported them to the Middle East. His defence was that he had never knowingly dealt with terrorists and that, as far as he was aware, the timers were not made for any terrorist purpose.

Mr Roy D. Amlot and Mr Nigel Sweeney, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr David Cocks, QC and Mr Henry Green for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE DUNN, giving the judgment of the court, said that the trial judge had fallen into error in directing the jury to consider the purpose for which the timers were to be used abroad, in particular in saying that it mattered not where the explosions were going to take place, whether in this country or elsewhere.

Their Lordships were of opinion that there were statutory provisions which would effectively prohibit the manufacture of explosives in this country for use abroad, but section 4 of the 1883 Act was not one of them. It might be that the section should be looked at in the proper place, but that was not a matter for their Lordships.

Solicitors: Director of Public Prosecutions.

THE TIMES DIARY

Old Mark's good home

The Courtauld Institute was yesterday accused of currying favour with the Government by lending Mrs Thatcher nine of its works to hang in her Chequers home. The disclosure of the two-year loan, confirmed yesterday by No 10, comes only weeks after the Government announced a £50,000 donation towards the institute's £3m move to Somerset House. The claim was made by Courtauld students who resent being denied access to the paintings, which were handpicked for Mrs Thatcher by Sir Geoffrey Agnew, chairman of Agnew's, the London art dealers, and Lord Campbell of Eskan. They include works by Pissarro, Alan Ramsay, Henry Raeburn, Winifred Nicholson and Bloomsbury set members Roger Fry and Vanessa Bell.

Yesterday Dr Dennis Farr, director of the Courtauld, denied his students' accusation: Chequers seemed a "good home" for the pictures because only 40 per cent of works can be hung until the move. Meanwhile Mrs Thatcher, who was at pains to show off the Wellington and Nelson portraits in Downing Street to the United States Falklands negotiator, Alexander Haig, should take even greater pleasure showing off her Pissarro. Its title: "Old Mark's Field."

© The Royal Society of Health is to stage a conference called "Contraception Today" in Baden-Powell House, the scouting movement's HQ, on April 18. Wholly appropriate, given the old motto.

Pot and kettle

Inspired, I suspect, by the Oman affair, Peter Preston, *The Guardian's* editor, is now proposing to set up a register of his journalist's interests, documenting their contracts and outside directorships. His plan, which he hopes to write into the house agreement, had been rejected yesterday by the paper's union branch on the finer details of access to the register. "It is a very low level and quiet thing", said Preston. "No story. No big deal." Indeed.

The Raj rages on

With only one more episode of *Jewel in the Crown* to run, British Raj addicts will be alarmed by the threat that now hangs over yet another Indian epic – *The Bengal Lancers*. The director Stephen Weeks is incensed with the film's backer, Mahmoud Sipra, who recalled three of the cast, Michael York, Trevor Howard and Miles O'Keefe, from only two weeks on location in India, because, alleges Sipra, of faulty film footage. Weeks denies the charge, insisting the film is near perfection. Yesterday he swore never to work with Sipra again. Indeed, he has found a new backer, whom he refused to name, and plans to return to India to finish filming after the monsoons. Sipra, who has already spent $2.5m on the project has other ideas. "Weeks can shout from the top of the Empire State Building that he intends to continue, but the only way that will happen is if he writes a cheque and buys me out."

BARRY FANTONI



Full circle

Neil Kinnock certainly has an eye for a dramatic opening. The 7:84 theatre company, of which he is a director, is to stage the debut of its trade union-financed play about the Tolpuddle martyrs, *The Six Men of Dorset*, in Cheltenham. Curiously, the original 1934 version of the production was commissioned by the TUC after intense pressure by the Cheltenham branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Second course

Ninety sin-starved women undergoing a "slimmer's fantasy" week at Inglewood Health Hydro, Berkshire, will be treated to a prize draw on Friday, hosted by Diana Dors. The second prize? You guessed it. Another week at Inglewood.

Hazard in SW11

As architects prepare to present 11 schemes for the Battersea Power Station at the local Arts Centre next Wednesday, Cedric Price, who designed the London Zoo aviary with Lord Snowdon, tells me of his brainchild. Since it costs £16m alone to prop up the station's walls, he believes the whole building should be demolished, leaving only the four chimneys and the overhead masonry which have to be seen as a "natural hazard". Battersea residents have different ideas: some see their power station as an aircraft hangar, and others a Roman Catholic church.

PHS

South Africa: closer but not quite

Peter Hain argues for the postponement of the England tour planned for this summer

Has South African sport changed enough to justify ending its international ostracism and sending out a rugby touring team this summer? *That should be the question at the* top of the agenda for Friday's meeting of England's rugby officials – not *whether* changes have occurred. Clearly, there is now a degree of mixed sport which would not have been tolerated in 1969-70 when an all-white rugby tour of Britain was placed under siege by demonstrators.

However, as Tommy Bedford, the vice-captain of that Springbok side, has since argued, the opportunities recently opened up for black players would not have come without the protests and boycotts. Along with South Africa's heart transplant professor, Christiaan Barnard, and even its white rugby supremo, Dr Danie Craven, Tommy Bedford has publicly conceded that the changes are the direct result of the South African authorities being brought hard up against the reality of isolation.

Previous decades of building bridges had only seen the position of black sport deteriorate as the net of apartheid was tightened ever more closely around the country's sport. But what have these changes added up to? Some black sports organizations have been allowed to affiliate to the dominant white bodies, which in the past have enjoyed exclusive international links. For instance, the black South African Rugby Association and the coloured (mixed race) South African Rugby Federation are now affiliated to Danie Craven's white South African Rugby Board (SARB).

Typically, however, these two non-white bodies are outnumbered on SARB's governing council by 22 white provincial affiliates. Moreover, the genuinely non-racial South African Rugby Union, with by far the largest number of black players, refuses to participate in this pale reflection of apartheid, pointing out that a few "Uncle Toms" in mainly white teams have not altered the essentially racist nature of South African rugby. Indeed progress in rugby has lagged well behind other sports, such as cricket and soccer.

Clubs in all sports are still overwhelmingly segregated. Facilities for whites far surpass those for blacks. School sports remain rigidly separate, with the government insisting that even the minimal concessions given to adults will not apply to children.

About 1 per cent of the country's sport has been integrated. Apartheid laws still govern the smallest details of sporting life. The notorious "pass laws" restrict blacks from travelling freely to away matches, or tournaments outside their home area. Black sports administrators, like cricket's Hassan Howa, are denied passports to travel to Britain to put their case. Legislation determines whether competitors can play on grounds in areas designated for other races (so that one white rugby star, "Cheeky" Watson, has been arrested for trying to play in a black township outside Port Elizabeth).

Despite some legal changes allowing "bona fide" (ie, government-approved) sports activity to circumvent racial laws, South Africa remains internationally unique in having its sport so closely controlled by a political system which enforces discrimination.

So what should be done? When Danie Craven paid me a private visit in 1977, our mutual preconceptions of each other as bogy figures melted away in constructive discussion on ways to resolve South Africa's sports impasse. We agreed that his government must be persuaded to introduce legislation which would exempt sport from all apartheid's restrictions, and make it illegal to have racially exclusive clubs and segregated school sport.

Seven years later, the politicians in charge have still not done that, and they will not do so unless pressure is maintained. Release it, through a visit such as the English rugby tour, and they will feel no incentive to make the massive changes still needed.

If English rugby honestly and sincerely has the interests of South African rugby at heart – rather than merely a selfish desire to enjoy the fruits of its lavish white hospitality – then its leaders will postpone the planned tour: not cancel it, but postpone it until such time as the government wholeheartedly embraces the spirit of non-racial sport.

Such a decision could actually strengthen the hands of those white sports officials such as Danie Craven who want more changes. And the next item on their agenda should be an invitation to Mr Ebrahim Patel, general secretary of the non-racial South African Rugby Union, to visit England. Despite being the leader of black rugby, his views have so far not been heard.

The author is Vice-chairman of The Labour Coordinating Committee. In 1969-70 he was leader of the Stop The Seventies Tour campaign against South African sporting visits.

Clifford Longley looks at the problem of senior Anglican appointments







Reluctant bishops? John Habgood, centre, in Bishopsthorpe Palace; David Jenkins and wife, top left; the Archbishop of Canterbury, bottom left; Patrick Rodger, top right, and John Howe

Hard-to-fill houses of the Lord

The Church of England is apparently having increasing difficulty filling its top positions with the men it wants. *It has become acceptable, with no* loss of face or reprimand, for an archdeacon, dean, suffragan bishop or theology professor to decline an invitation to fill a vacant See, and as a result some senior positions have been filled by the church's second – or third or fourth – choice.

Cardinal Basil Hume, had he been an Anglican, would never have become Archbishop of Canterbury. When offered the top position in *this country in his own church*, the Archbishopric of Westminster, it took a personal interview with Pope Paul VI, and a direct order, to persuade him. Refusal would be "disobedience to Christ's command", the Pope told him. The ecclesiastical appointments office at 10 Downing Street does not use that kind of language.

Appointments to bishoprics in the Church of England are handled nowadays by the Crown Appointments Commission, which has a majority of elected and *ex officio* members representing the church's national interest and a minority, changed for each appointment, representing the diocese. It sends two names to the Prime Minister, in order of preference. When it was set up in 1977 there were widespread fears that it would be open to lobbying and subject to leaks, mischievous and otherwise. In fact *its security has been excellent*, and only gradually is it filtering down to the rest of the church that some vacancies have not been easy to fill. The commission itself answers all inquiries about its work with "No comment".

Nevertheless the long gap between *the announcement that Dr John* Habgood was moving from Durham to York and the announcement that Professor David Jenkins was being appointed to replace him – from July last year to March this year – has given further weight to this impression. The Bishop of Durham has to live in Auckland Castle, said to have about 100 rooms and to be not the most attractive place for a bishop's wife to set up home, and it would hardly be surprising if some wives were reluctant to see their husbands make such a move.

It is widely known that the present Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, turned down the offer of the Archbishopric of York when he was Bishop of St Alban's – one of three who declined it – and his recent biography by Mrs Margaret Duggan (*Runcie, the Making of an Archbishop*, Hodder and Stoughton) records that Mrs Runcie's "horror" of the palace in York was one of the reasons. In this modern age wives are no longer willing to adapt their lives entirely to their husband's careers, and this is undoubtedly one of the factors making the Crown Appointment Commission's work more difficult. *It is no longer uncommon for a* churchman's wife to have a career of her own, which anchors her geographically to one area.

So far there has been no firm evidence that the See of Durham was offered to anyone else: the Commission, the office at 10 Downing Street, and the individuals approached may be the only ones who know. But apart from that and from the case of York (which apparently was declined by Bishop John Howe, then chief executive of the Anglican Communion, as well as the then Bishop of Manchester, the Rt Rev Patrick Roger) it appears that more recent appointments to Worcester and to Newcastle were certainly offered to others before the present incumbent accepted. Also it is generally believed that the two Chadwick brothers – Sir Owen Chadwick and Professor Henry Chadwick – have declined more than one offer each.

One clerical wag – not to be believed – said the Chadwicks had taken to turning them down by *printed postcard. But these fairly* well-attested cases apart, there are persistent rumours of other individuals who have said no, or of other dioceses where the commission had to go down a shopping list. It would surprise no one if the commission now routinely prepared a list longer than the two names it is required to submit to the Prime Minister, to save the need for further meetings when refusals came in.

All this is not necessarily good for the church. It is not good that a promising suffragan bishop, say might think he can turn down the first diocese he is offered, in the hope that a vacancy more agreeable to him will turn up. It is not good that a genuinely humble churchman should feel it is a voluntary matter, that he is free to choose the path which modesty dictates, for such a man is likely to have spiritual qualities the church desperately needs in its leadership.

The Church of England should decide who it wants, and then put pressure on him. An arm-twisting session with the archbishop, coupled with a warning that no man who refused one offer could expect another, might persuade better men on to the bench, and might persuade reluctant wives that duty really was making an urgent call. The Church of England needs a Basil Hume or two; but in the present atmosphere it will not get one.

For the setebos who left it nocturn

THE TIMES Crossword is normally designed to be solved by people in railway carriages with no dictionaries to hand. The exception to this is the Eliminator puzzle for the Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship (Puzzle No: 16,385 which appeared on March 22), *which is meant to be difficult* for all solvers, including the scholar in his study.

Solvers (whole or partial) who have qualified for the Bristol and London regional finals will be informed as soon as the checking of the entries has been completed. The explanations of the Eliminator clues are:

Across. 1 **ACK-ACK** in the signaller's alphabet stands for Anti-Aircraft gunnery; during the Second World War the BBC ran a programme called "Ack-Ack, Beer-Beer" for troops on isolated AA and Balloon Barrage sites. 4 During the Cromwell's Commonwealth Maj-Gen Browne of Abingdon was said to hang his prisoners first and then try them, hence **ABINGDON** Law. 10 CAT (-o'-nine-tails = whip) has A LP (a long-playing record) + A = **CATALPA**: New Palace Yard, where MPs enter the House of Commons, is shaded by old Catalpa trees. 11 **SETEBOS**, anagram of SO BESET, was the god of Sycorax, mother of Caliban in *The Tempest*. 12 **RADIOMETER**, anagram of READ, TIME OR. 13 The "Day girl" is Fancy Day in Hardy's *Under the Greenwood Tree*, who married Dick **DEWY**, who was a tranter, or carrier. 15 **INDITER**, one who writes or composes, sounds like indicter, or accuser. 17 A M(abbreviation for a cricket maiden) BATCH (loaves produced at one baking) = **AMBATCH**, a tropical African tree. 19 "Nocturne in Black and Gold" is the famous painting by Whistler (which Ruskin called "Flinging a pot of paint in the public's face); "unfinished" = **NOCTURN**, part of the office of Matins. 21 V (Roman five) in HALING (= drawing) gives **HALVING**, which makes two (out of one). 23 **CALX**, old word for quick-lime; is the goal line (at football) in Eton slang (Shorter Oxford Dictionary). 24 The **MACKINTOSH** was invented by Charles Macintosh, a chemist; "getting a K" is a common expression for the award of a knighthood. 27 **WEMMICK**, Mr Jagger's clerk in *Great Expectations*, *had an Aged Parent*. 28 Genetic system, or CODE, with young growth, or LAD, in it = **CLADODE**, the botanical word for a flattened, leaf-like stem. 29 "put aright perhaps" indicates a (right-hand) SIDE, hence **SET ASIDE**. 30 SAY (for instance) in an SS (ship) = **ASSAYS**, or tests.

Down: 1 **ACCORD/IO/N**, agreement on Io, the Greek maiden, plus abbreviation for name. 2 A **KATYDID** is an American grasshopper; *What Katy Did* the title of a novel by Susan Coolidge. 3 **COLPORTEUR** is a "book pedlar, esp. employed by a society to distribute Bibles" (COD), and sounds like Cole Porter the song writer, except that "Col" is pronounced with a short "o". 5 A Shem (eldest son of Noah) in Bath (in the county of Avon): **BASHEMATH** was one of the wives (Genesis 26:34) of Esau, "a cunning hunter". 6 **NETT** means clear of all charges, and sounds the same as net, another name for a let at tennis. 7 To be in **DEBRETT's** Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage and Companionage is to be of an aristocratic or titled family. 8 Cromwell's nickname was Copper Nose or **NOSEY**, giving "yes on" when reversed. 9 Jack **CADE**, leader of the Kentish insurrection of 1450, whose popular name was Jack Amend-all (Brewer). 14 The **ABELONIANS** were a North African sect who lived in continence after marriage like "Righteous Abel" (Brewer). 16 **R/ANS/ACKED**. 18 **HIGH HEELS** and Low Heels, the names of two factions in Swift's tale of Lilliput, satirizing the High and Low Church parties. 20 "Gitche Manito, the mighty/ Smoked the **CALUMET**, the Peace Pipe/ As a signal to the nations": *Longfellow, Hiawatha*, i. 22 **IPOMOEA**, a tropical plant such as the morning glory or sweet potato; anagram of A/O(love)/POEM/I(one). 23 **S/COWLS**. 25 Motor cycles have **KICK** starters. 26 Bartholomeu **DIAS** (or Diaz), fifteenth century Portuguese navigator, and beginning of the word Diaspora.

My congratulations to those who teased it out; and my sympathies to *all those on the Clapham omnibus* who didn't.

John Grant
Crossword Editor

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Pay before patients? A nursing dilemma

Sir John Greenborough is a glutton for punishment. At the end of the 1970s he crowned a distinguished career in the oil industry with a notably successful two-year stint as president of the Confederation of British Industry. Thereafter he could reasonably have looked forward to combining the chairmanship of one public company, and non-executive directorships in a few others, with more time for the golf course, the concert hall, and travel.

But over the past few months those delights have had to take a back seat. For last autumn he was inveigled by the Prime Minister, with whom he shares a considerable mutual admiration, into chairing the new Review Body for Nursing and Midwifery Staff set up after the long and acrimonious health service wrangle in 1982. Any day now he is due to deposit the conclusions of his first adjudication on the doorstep of 10 Downing Street.

The Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse) wants a flat-rate £40-a-week rise for all nurses and midwives, regardless of skills, experience and responsibility; while the Royal College of Nursing, *representing the upper reaches of the* profession, unsurprisingly opts for a good deal more than that for its own clientele. The Department of Health and Social Security, on the other hand – equally unsurprisingly, since this is the provision written into its pay cash limits this year – says 3 per cent is quite enough.

Judging by the noises of their leaders, the assorted health service unions would go quietly for something around 10 per cent. The Prime Minister most certainly would not. Unfortunately, however, while the Government has retained the right to tell Sir John and his colleagues to get lost, Norman Fowler has made it clear that it would not like to do that: "We did not set up the review body in order to reject its findings." So Sir John had better get it right.

If NHS precedent were anything to go by, that is about the last thing he could be expected to do. The mantle that has now fallen on his shoulders was previously worn by Lord Halsbury in 1974, and by Professor "Comparability" Clegg in 1979. Lord Halsbury and his team produced voluminous evidence of the availability of nursing and midwifery candidates of quality, and of the ability of the NHS to retain their services, when once recruited, at existing rates of pay; and then concluded that they should be paid a bumper increase to show how much we loved them. Professor Clegg's remit, of course, had nothing to do with the laws of supply and demand: his task was to "ask what the boys in the back-room will have, and tell them we're having the same". In fact he didn't bother very much about the laws of arithmetic either, if they got in the way of a substantial settlement for his clients.

But precedent is not – at any rate should not be – very much to go by in this instance. For the Government made it crystal clear, when it finally conceded the principle of a review body to halt disruption in the hospitals 18 months ago, that it had in mind something quite different from what had gone before: a review body which would direct its mind to what was needed to recruit and retain the nurses and midwives of the quality the nation could afford, and to hell with sentiment and keeping up with the Joneses. And it shaped the membership of this new body accordingly.

Even so, it still looks nip and tuck. The DHSS, it seems, has told Sir John and friends that, in its estimation "existing pay levels broadly meet" the criterion of recruitment and retention (why, if that be so, an increase of any kind is called for is not explained, but let that pass). "Pay or remuneration increases higher than 3 per cent would have to be financed at the expense of services to patients."

Given that suitable young ladies are queueing up for every nursing post in sight, a visitor from Mars might deem these arguments conclusive. The trouble is that they do not exactly reflect what has happened *hitherto*. When the good Professor Clegg was hauled out from Warwick University to rescue Jim Callaghan from the winter of discontent, the then Chief Secretary of the Treasury, Joel Barnett, sternly warned that if he doubled the number he first thought of – as he was sure to do – then it would mean cuts in personnel and services; and that message was repeated *fortissimo* by Geoffrey Howe. Needless to say, Professor Clegg ignored it, and it didn't happen.

Over the ensuing four years the number of nurses and midwives on the payroll of the NHS went up by nearly 11 per cent (notwithstanding the fact that the ratio of nurses to beds already exceeded parity). So the health service unions might be forgiven for accusing the DHSS of crying wolf.

In this respect as well, one feels, things could be different this time round. So who would be Sir John? If he accepts the logic of the DHSS submission, he had better not succumb to acute appendicitis. But if instead he is swayed by the siren voices of Cohse and the Royal College of Nursing, not only will he whistle for invitations from No 10: he might find there was no bed available to treat his appendicitis anyway.

Phillip Whitehead

Fanfare for the broken man

When I first saw him he was only 19, and wearing a blanket. The prison pallor already offset his shock of red-brown hair. There was a kind of desperate calm about him, far from home and "on the blanket". Nearly a decade later he is immured, under intolerable duress, in the old control unit in Wakefield prison. As he is being held under a total of 30 counts of life imprisonment, one for each of the amateurish letter bombs he posted out from his native Londonderry in 1973-4, there will be those who say that anything which happens to this young man is justified. They need not read on.

The case of Shane Paul O'Doherty will shortly be taken to the European Court of Human Rights. He is asking to be moved back to Northern Ireland, where his aged mother resides and where his offences were committed. He is unusual in that he does not dispute or seek to mitigate the gravity of those offences, which maimed one person and could have injured others; nor that loss of liberty for many years is the price exacted. All of his youth will have gone to pay it.

O'Doherty became involved with the IRA in Londonderry in the aftermath of Bloody Sunday. He was 18. He had seen friends shot. For youths of his age and background, the Provos could come out of the shadows, murmuring of the necessary murder.

His brother asked me to visit him in 1975, in the category A wing at Wormwood Scrubs. From that first encounter, with its edgy point-scoring and mutual incomprehension, has developed a friendship that I value, with a young man whose maturation was for some years quite remarkable. He thought deeply about violence and its consequences. He sought permission to contact all those whom he had tried to injure, *to seek their forgiveness*. And, to the dismay of other IRA men in Wormwood Scrubs and of those still pushing Armalites into the hands of a fresh generation back home, he renounced violence in an open letter to Bishop Daly, published in Londonderry. In that he said: "I was a hypocrite. In injuring human beings I did not cure injustices. I created new ones".

It was a brave stand by a young man who knows well enough the destructive power of those who have terror at their beck and call. He had already ended his prison protests, come "off the blanket", and become a moral force for good inside the Scrubs.

O'Doherty also underwent a profound religious experience, which may lead him to the Franciscans after his eventual release, and began to study. By the *late 1970s a number of members of* Parliament with whom he had corresponded were asking the Home Office for better study facilities for him, relaxation of Category A status, and some understanding about a transfer to Northern Ireland. Ministers were unhelpful. O'Doherty was suddenly moved to Gartree in 1980, where a more restrictive regime began to sour his hopes, and to Long Lartin in 1983.

Authority will point to the fact that he refused to work, in despair at this regression, at the end of 1981, and to his protests on behalf of other prisoners who were allegedly beaten up in Long Lartin, as evidence that he is incorrigible. In the last few months he has been in Winson Green, Bristol, and now Wakefield. Lord Elton, under fire from Lords Hylton and Longford over the treatment of O'Doherty, told the former on March 2: "I was not convinced that he has broken his links with para-military organizations, particularly since he was refusing to comply with prison rules". This masterly *non sequitur* gives away the Home Office case. He speaks out. *He helps other prisoners*. Ergo, he is a terrorist at heart. Last week *Mr Douglas Hurd produced* another variation on this theme in a Commons debate initiated by Andrew Bennett, MP.

It is true that O'Doherty has become embittered by these past five years. Not a glimmer of hope has ever been vouchsafed to him. His 68-year-old mother was appallingly treated at Long Lartin when she came over from Derry to visit him last year.

In Wakefield, O'Doherty is now being held under Rule 43, forbidden to speak to other prisoners, or to attend the Catholic chapel. He is quite literally boxed in, as he enters his second decade of imprisonment. As we watch the Home Secretary glide down the long slipway of his self-esteem, we know he carries no doubts about the effect of 20-year *sentences without hope of improvement*. But what of his juniors? Douglas Hurd and Rodney Elton are honourable men. Do they ever wonder why so many people have become exercised over the O'Doherty case, and find him a remarkable human being, even when stubborn and obsessive as prison has made him?

Those of us who count Shane O'Doherty a friend are not apologists for terrorism, or for *that auto-destructive army of the night* that deals in sadism, extortion, and sectarian slaughter. We know that, when Irishmen eventually sit down together to discuss, not territory and flags, but reconciliation of different national traditions, O'Doherty and those who have come through the fever of violence should be there. Instead, he may be broken and rebrutalized in Wakefield jail.

The author was secretary of the Parliamentary Human Rights Group from 1976-83.

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

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THE CHAOS CLEARS

Sunday's elections in El Salvador certainly produced scenes of confusion and frustration, scenes that were largely absent from the Constituent Assembly elections of 1982. Inadequate or contradictory directions, lack of ballot papers, the familiar failures of the computer – complications of the system rather than the ignorance of the voters – seemed to account for much of this in the areas where people voted. Voting took place in well over 200 of the Republic's 260 municipalities, and it is estimated that something over half of the 2.5 million electorate voted. Voting is obligatory, and though the formal sanctions are small this influences the size of the vote in areas the government control. The elections did not take place everywhere in that atmosphere of "Free and secure expression of opinion" that Dr Kissinger's report sees as a prerequisite of peace.

Yet these elections are not meaningless. Though there has not so far been an official announcement of figures our observer Sir James Swaffield was probably right to declare "There will be a result, about which one must have some qualifications", and to make the point that confusion does not necessarily mean corruption; indeed, it may even be caused by computerised efforts to prevent corruption. Unofficial estimates, compiled by the Christian Democrats but confirmed by other sources and not yet seriously challenged by their opponents, give their candidate José Napoleon Duarte somewhere between 44.5 per cent and 48 per cent of the vote, Major Roberto D'Abuisson of the far-right ARENA around 29 per cent, and Francisco José Guerrero of the conservative National Concilliation Party some 17 per cent.

This at least gives an indication of the support enjoyed by these politically distinct elements in elections that, in the words of our correspondent, offered a "limited but clear choice". Senor Duarte appears to have done some five per cent better than his party did in 1982, the other two candidates holding their party vote. This runs counter to the widespread notion of the irresistible rise of Major D'Abuisson, and has important implications. Under the Salvadorean system, the choice of President must now be determined by a run-off within 40 days between the two leading contenders. It is by no means clear that Senor Duarte will lose the second round.

Nor are all groups in the FMLN-FDR opposition indifferent to the possibilities that his victory would open. Ruben Zamora, Secretary of the Front's Political and Diplomatic Commission, recently gave it as his personal guess that a D'Abuisson win would produce a coup backed by the United States, but that a coup against Duarte would be frustrated. Duarte's proposals for future negotiations with the FMNL-FDR are not impossibly distant from the FMNL-FDR's own proposals. Dr Kissinger's report strongly urges negotiations after these elections are over. They will certainly have been worth the effort if such a convergence of views is brought closer.

Will that happen? The second electoral round is not predictable, nor are reactions to it. The potential for increased violence is obvious. Most Salvadorean politicians, right across the spectrum, have so little patience in negotiation and small talents for compromise or collaboration. From General Martinez, who bloodily supressed the "Communists" in 1932, to Major D'Abuisson today, the Salvadorean right has fed on anti-Communist rhetoric that would sound strident even to General Pinochet. Such simplifications, and similar simplifications in Washington, produce opposite simplifications on the left, and the cycle of violence confirms each side's beliefs about the other. To break this cycle it will require not only a political shift but a complex system of tangible guarantees for those who are prepared to stop fighting. How can such a system be installed in El Salvador? If he wins the next round, Senor Duarte must still govern for a year with the existing Constituent Assembly. Can he form and hold together a credible coalition?

It has been too common place to say that these elections by themselves will not solve anything. They are not yet over, and the civil war goes on. But they might produce a result that brought a negotiated settlement nearer and such a settlement would benefit not only El Salvador. So they are elections worth watching.

AN AFRICAN TRAGEDY

President Ahmed Sekou Touré of Guinea, whose death was announced yesterday, was a tragic figure in the full sense of that term. His life could be the subject of a classic Shakespearian tragedy with its familiar theme: the hero fatally corrupted by absolute power. A dramatist would perhaps have had him die under the assassin's rather than the surgeon's knife, and would have written in a larger female role. Otherwise, the story has drama, pathos and sheer horror enough for the most jaded audience.

For Sekou Touré *was* a hero. In 1958, when he led Guinea to independence, he enjoyed the passionate and almost unanimous admiration of his people. He was a brilliant organizer and shrewd politician who knew when to be tough and when to compromise. Largely self-educated, and learning quickly from French trade unionists, he never saw eye to eye with the radical, Paris-based African intelligentsia. They criticised him sharply for cooperating with French governments and accepting office under the "Loi-Cadre" brought in in 1956 by M Gaston Defferre (then Minister of "Overseas France" in the Guy Mollet government, now President Mitterrand's minister of the Interior), which gave only limited autonomy to the Black African territories. But Touré rightly saw that this gave African nationalists a chance to establish a power-base on their own ground, from which they could then push for full independence. "Nous avons fait l'économie d'une guerre," (we have saved ourselves a war), he remarked, comparing Guinea's experience with what the Algerians were then going through.

His finest hour came in September 1958 when, alone of France's Black African territories, Guinea voted No in the referendum on de Gaulle's constitution, thereby opting for immediate independence and rejecting the half-way house of membership of the "French Community". "Guinea prefers poverty in freedom to wealth in slavery", declared Sekou Touré somewhat histrionically, and de Gaulle took him at his word. The French administration pulled out of Guinea within days, taking with it whatever French government property it could remove – even the telephones – and de Gaulle refused even to discuss the possibility of French aid to the newly independent state.

Touré was the hero of all Africa, and became the close ally of Kwame Nkrumah, who chose Guinea as his place of exile after his fall in 1966. But, like Nkrumah, Touré found that a state-controlled economy, so far from ensuring that the people benefited from their country's economic resources, lacked the capital, the expertise, and above all the initiative to develop and market those resources. He soon lost any illusions about Soviet aid (one consignment of which allegedly contained a snow-plough), but not until the last years of his life did he reconcile himself to encouraging Western capitalist investment. Meanwhile, he had become obsessed with the fear of plots against him inside and outside the country. Some one million Guineans are now thought to be living in exile. Seventeen cabinet ministers have been executed or have died in prison (Diallo Telli, the widely-respected former secretary-general of the Organization of African Unity, was one of those deliberately starved to death), and another eighteen sentenced to life imprisonment.

It does not say much for the prevailing political mores in the world that, in spite of all this, Sekou Touré had latterly come to be regarded both in the OAU and in the Islamic Conference Organization as a great "moderate" and even something of a statesman. He played an important role in securing Egypt's readmission to the Islamic Conference this February, and was expecting to host an OAU summit in Conakry early in the summer. He had mediated unsuccessfully in the Iran-Iraq war and was latterly trying his hand at mediation in the Western Sahara dispute which threatened to make the OAU summit untenable. He will be sorely missed, as they say – but not, one suspects, by many of the Guinean people.

TESTING THE TESTER

It is a thing very much to be desired that there should be a cheap, easy and reliable means of securing the evidence necessary to convict drivers who endanger their own lives and those of others by taking to the road when they are drunk. The sharp decline in drunken driving arrests over Christmas showed how readily motorists respond to indications that they are less likely to get away with it than before: it falls into the category of tariff-responsive crimes. At Christmas the Home Office thought (or protested very insistently that it thought) that a cheap, easy and reliable means of securing convictions had at last been put into the hands of the police. Now it seems less sure of that.

Publicity works both ways, and one consequence of this damaging episode may well be that some drivers calculate that they might get away with it after all. The evidence indicates that it is spring, not Christmas, when drivers killed on the road are most likely to have been drunk, and many tragedies may result in the coming weeks. The police will have to exercise control as best they can, although the old evidential techniques which all suspects will now have the right to demand take up much more police time – with a consequent reduction in time spent on patrol. But it is equally necessary to avoid further undermining the public's legitimate expectation that the law should be applied fairly.

It will not be easy to make things look fair, within the programme outlined by the Government this week. There will eventually be at least four categories of drivers banned from the road after being tested on the Lion Intoximeter. There will be those arrested before there were publicly-admitted doubts about the reliability of the machine; those arrested between now and April 16, when Mr Hurd's new safeguards come in; and those arrested afterwards who either fail or fail to ask for the confirmatory tests of blood or urine. If it is fair to give the latter that option, it must look unfair to uphold the penalties imposed without an option on the first category, let alone those still to be imposed on the second.

The delay in introducing the safeguards is said to be administratively unavoidable, because police surgeons will be needed in sufficient numbers to meet a demand which will no doubt be swollen by vexatious and frivolous claims. No-one would wish to see the next three weekends go by with no effective drink-driving test at all: the Home Office has simply got itself into an impossible situation. The only palliative will be for the courts, after the period is over, to give the promptest and most attentive hearing possible to appeals.

The official case is that there is still no reason to believe the machine generally unreliable. Anybody with evidence of a malfunction at any time may appeal. In practice the evidence will be difficult to secure, and the process of going back to court is a daunting one. Eventually the machine may recover its reputation in spite of the disturbing evidence uncovered by the *Daily Express*: one must hope so. In the meantime there are urgent questions to be answered about how the Government allowed itself to adopt a system after what is now seen to be inadequate testing. There are signs of a widespread self-righteous blind faith by the authorities in their new toy, even when it began behaving oddly. The outcome is a grave blow to public respect for the law. The fight against drunken driving is a good cause, one of the best. But a good cause is not enough: justice must be done and seen to be done as well.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Miss Tisdall, official secrecy and the public interest

From the Editor of The Guardian

Sir, Can I offer some clarifications which may assist correspondents like Mrs Brigid Smithers (March 27) in their reflections on the Sarah Tisdall case.

The Government proceedings for the return of the cruise document against *The Guardian* newspaper last December were civil ones. The Treasury Solicitor could have argued against us under the Official Secrets Act. In fact, he argued the laws of property and copyright.

At the end of those proceedings we, as a company, were faced with escalating fines for contempt of court if we did not comply.

In a sympathetic editorial at that time ("Caveat talpa", December 17) you pointed out that we did not know our informant, nor whether return of the document would trace the leaker. "No explicit or implicit contract exists, and it is almost quixotic to act as if it did".

You therefore concluded that we should have returned the document more promptly, without prolonged legal resistance.

It was over three weeks before Miss Tisdall – our unknown informant – confessed to spare the other 10 people in her office further distress. She was then charged – as we had not been charged – under the Official Secrets Act.

It was open to the Attorney General to charge us both then, but that was specifically not done because the Crown in our own civil proceedings had repeatedly admitted that, in publishing the document, we had not acted against the "public interest" and thus it would be hard to argue, against Miss Tisdall and *The Guardian* together, that the public interest had been harmed.

I find that distressingly hypocritical, and a pungent comment on the ramshackle state of the Official Secrets Act.

Yours faithfully,
PETER PRESTON, Editor,
The Guardian,
119 Farringdon Road, EC1.
March 27.

From Mr Denis Christian

Sir, In your leader, "Miss Tisdall's case" (March 26), you say that a document of the sort in question would probably have remained "within a 'secret' classification of some sort." This is imprecise and we may have seen, here, a case of *over*-classification for political purposes.

In sentencing Miss Tisdall, Mr Justice Cantley observed, ". . . any person entrusted with any material *classified as secret* (my italics) . . . shall not escape a custodial sentence". However, prior to this, on December 15, when *The Guardian* appeal was heard, Sir John Donaldson said that the published document contained no information which would be of use to enemies of this country.

Given our knowledge of the broad definitions into which the contents of a paper ought to fit before meriting a particular classification and with due weight to Sir John's opinion, was the document over-classified? If so, Miss Tisdall went to prison for a technical offence against the security of the country, when in fact her offence was the breaking of a confidence of a matter deserving a lower security guard.

More broadly, any consistent usage of over-classification for political purposes means that, increasingly, decision-making is in the hands of the few, based on the "need to know" maxim. Perhaps decent politicians of all parties will turn their attention to this.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS CHRISTIAN,
9 High Beach,
Felixstowe,
Suffolk.
March 26.

From Rear-Admiral A. D. Torlesse

Sir, The propriety of delegating to a junior and inexperienced clerk the handling of secret and highly sensitive documents under conditions in which she was able to retain copies does not seem to have been questioned.

Such work should surely have been entrusted to a more senior and reliable person and closely supervised. But perhaps it is idle to look for elementary common sense in the Foreign Office.

Yours faithfully,
A. D. TORLESSE,
1 Sway Lodge,
Sway,
Lymington,
Hampshire.
March 26.

From Miss E. L. Smith

Sir, It has not failed to escape my notice that since Sarah Tisdall was sentenced at the Old Bailey there has been an outcry by the "do-gooders" to defend her and criticise the sentence passed on her. She was at the beginning of her diplomatic career and as such was not paid to decide what the public should know.

"Hers was not the right to reason why – hers was to do or die". She obviously was not aware of the code connected with the Civil Service – you are there to serve the Government of the day, whether you like them or not.

She has abused the privilege of working at the Foreign Office – yes, it is a privilege to work there – and the trust that was placed in her.

There have been far too many leaks and a stand must be made sooner or later. In my book she got what she deserved.

Yours faithfully,
E. L. SMITH,
1 St Ann's Close,
Chertsey,
Surrey.
March 26.

From Brigadier P. K. Goozee

Sir, Having suffered the hand-wringing sentimentality of last Saturday's *Guardian*, to which the BBC gave main-story prominence in its morning news broadcasts, and the sanctimonious claptrap of yesterday's *Sunday Times*, your leading article this morning (March 26) has done much to restore my confidence in British journalism.

However, should you not have made the further point that the Editor of *The Guardian*, when he first received the two documents, ought at once to have returned them to their rightful owner? What else should one do as the receiver of property, obviously stolen and obviously valuable, on which the identity of the owner is plain to see?

I trust I am right in believing that this is what you would have done; otherwise I may feel obliged to give up British newspapers entirely – and where else could I then turn for journalistic integrity?

Yours faithfully (and, I trust, continuing so),
P. K. GOOZEE,
Kestrel,
Middleton Stoney,
Bicester,
Oxfordshire.
March 26.

From Mr Colin McGrady

Sir, Having recently spent eight days in HM Prison, Pentonville, as a consequence of an act of conscience against the nuclear arms race, I must take issue with your leader ("Miss Tisdall's case") today that "even a few nights in prison would . . . have been sufficiently horrifying to act as a deterrent against any temptation to act in a similar way."

I do fully agree that even a very short time in prison is a horrible experience and the prospect of several months in Holloway must be a truly ghastly one for Miss Tisdall. Moreover, the length of her sentence is indeed totally out of proportion to the offence.

However, it cannot be stressed strongly enough that there can never be an effective deterrent against a genuine act of conscience – no amount of punishment should be able to deter a person from acting according to his/her highest principles.

If one's conscience dictates the following of a particular course and if that course leads to breaking the law of the land (whether under a tyranny or in a democracy) one must be prepared to accept whatever punishment is finally imposed, however severe, with grace and dignity.

To her great credit, Miss Tisdall herself appears to have accepted hers thus and one can only wish her well during those interminable days of confinement.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN McGRADY,
Green Lodge,
58 Sheffield Terrace, W8.
March 26.

From Mr S. E. Scammell

Sir, Clearly it was necessary to send Miss Tisdall to prison in order to discourage a steady procession of secret documents from Whitehall to Fleet Street. But many people will surely consider that she should be joined there by the Editor of *The Guardian* who was an accessory after the crime and took an advantage from it.

Yours faithfully,
S. E. SCAMMELL,
Clouds Estate,
East Knoyle,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire.
March 26.

From Mr Eric Phillips

Sir, In recent years individual ministers and senior members of the defence Forces have from time to time been suspected of themselves leaking information on secret or confidential proposals going before Cabinet, the purpose being to stir up public or party opinion for or against the proposals, according to the leaker's own view of what the public interest requires.

I hope we can assume that whenever such a case occurs in future Scotland Yard will be called in and the Attorney General, should the evidence be sufficient, will arrange for the leaker to be tried at the Old Bailey. As for the sentence of the court, I suggest that, measured on the Tisdall scale, it should be imprisonment for at least five years.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC PHILLIPS,
46 Platts Lane, NW3.
March 26.

From Mr Philip Hawkins

Sir, It is sad to see the refined terminology of espionage invented by John Le Carré being degraded in the media and elsewhere (as in the headline to your Crime Reporter's contribution on page two of *The Times*, March 24).

In chapter 8 of *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* a mole is defined as "a deep penetration agent, so called because he burrows deep. . . . Moles are very precious. . . because of the many years it takes to place them. . ."

Miss Tisdall was no mole. Could not those who betray the trust placed in them by leaking Government secrets to the public be more aptly described as "squeakers"?

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP HAWKINS,
25 Upland Park Road,
Oxford.
March 25.

Politics of tobacco

From Lord Ennals

Sir, In a piece about the tobacco lobby by Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent (March 20), a spokesman for the Freedom Organisation for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco is quoted as saying that the personal views about smoking and legislation of Sir George Young, MP, who used to be Parliamentary Under Secretary for Health, did not reflect Government policy at the time.

This is outrageous: whatever Sir George Young's personal views about smoking – and so far as I am aware, they were exemplary for anyone holding office in the Department of Health – what really mattered were his actions as minister. These had the full and active support of his Secretary of State, the Right Hon Patrick Jenkin, MP, who incidentally was moved from the Department of Health in the same reshuffle as Sir George.

In reporting the quote, your Correspondent should have mentioned that this "freedom organization" is sponsored by the tobacco manufacturers.

Yours faithfully,
ENNALS,
House of Lords.
March 22.

VAT on buildings

From Mr C. Wickenden

Sir, In his Budget speech the Chancellor said that he had chosen June 1, 1984, as the starting date for the changes in VAT on building alteration work so as to allow sufficient time for current contracts to be completed.

Would it not have been fairer to allow contracts agreed prior to March 13 to remain zero-rated? Two and a half months might be a long time in politics, but that is not the case in the construction industry.

Yours faithfully,
C. WICKENDEN,
Wood Sorrel,
Cokes Lane,
Chalfont St Giles,
Buckinghamshire.
March 22.

Royal Court's future

From Sir Hugh Willatt and others

Sir, We have been associated with the Arts Council's Drama Advisory Panel, as its chairman or as drama directors, virtually throughout the existence of the English Stage Company at the Royal Court Theatre. During these years panel members have included many eager rivals for such money as may have been available; but at all times the panel, rivals included, has recognised the ESC's enlivening contribution of new work to theatre throughout Britain and to the high standing of British drama worldwide. The Royal Court has, since 1955, always been considered a national theatre for new writing.

Nor is there any credible suggestion that the ESC's standards are unacceptably in decline. Quite the contrary, even in terms of attendances and subsidy per seat, let alone the evident quality of its recent work.

There can be no doubt that the current drama panel, and the drama department, if adequately consulted, would totally confirm confidence in the ESC and its future, now threatened.

Council members will surely not wish to treat any of its advisory panels, or its own departmental officers, with the contempt which a decision to cripple the English Stage Company would unmistakably signal.

We are, Sir, yours etc,
HUGH WILLATT,
JOHN FAULKNER,
RICHARD HOGGART,
J. W. LAMBERT,
J. L. HODGKINSON,
N. V. LINKLATER,
4 St Peter's Wharf,
Hammersmith Terrace, W8.

Books at risk

From Lord Balfour of Burleigh

Sir, It is clear that the work of the Arts Council's literature department no longer commands public confidence. Nevertheless, the step which the council is reported to be considering – i.e., the termination of its support for literature and, in particular, the total withdrawal of its grant to the National Book League – seems to me to be wrong.

The NBL has a powerful and imaginative council, a director who is widely held in high regard and a core of knowledge and expertise which is instantly available throughout the whole country to those whose job it is to bring about a greater knowledge and understanding of literature and books in general. It plays a great part in fostering the interest of young people in books and literature.

My hope is that the Arts Council will recognise the enormous benefit of these services, which the NBL have been developing for nearly 60 years, and secure them by continuation of the extremely small grant. Indeed, if they were to increase it only slightly and entrust the NBL with the support of other literary activities they would then have made a useful step in their right and proper policy of devolvement from 105 Piccadilly.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT BALFOUR of BURLEIGH,
Brucefield,
Clackmannan.
March 23.

Levels of education

From Mr B. W. Grantham-Hill

Sir, Have the noble minds of Lord Flowers (March 8) and Mr Roy Avery (March 19) considered what happens when a boys' grammar school rejects "ambitious general studies programmes" while the nearby girls' grammar school embraces them heartily?

A little investigation will reveal that we have here a wonderful tool to reduce the success of A-level students, by diverting their mental energies from their "three subjects": what a boon to administrators wishing to curtail the numbers of university entrants: nothing is too subtle in education today!

Yours very sincerely,
B. W. GRANTHAM-HILL,
9 Courtland Road,
Shiphay,
Torquay,
Devon.
March 19.

Public spending and the citizen

From Professor K. G. Denbigh, FRS

Sir, In two successive leaders (March 23 and 24) as well as in many earlier ones you have called for a reduction in public expenditure. You have also asked for a "lively public debate" and you say that your own "central philosophical conviction" is that the citizen "is the best judge . . . of how and where to spend his money".

I agree, but this does not exclude the possibility that some citizens may wish to spend some part of their money on publicly provided benefits rather than on privately purchased commodities. This option seems to be strangely overlooked in your own thinking on the matter.

A "lively public debate" implies many voices. Let me then speak for myself, as you have done for yourself. I am quite happy that I should pay an appreciable portion of my income as taxes and rates if these contributions will help me to obtain a fine environment in which to live, including litter-free streets, well-tended parks and a countryside free from haphazard development; and if they will also give me an efficient and inexpensive system of public transport reducing the nuisance of cars in the cities; and again if they will provide well-stocked public libraries, good museums, art galleries and theatres.

Beyond that I look for an effective health service, together with the satisfaction of knowing that others, too, can enjoy such a service and have protection against the damage done by poverty or unemployment. And, of course, I look for the existence of a BBC and of a system of public education, of which one can continue to be proud.

All these things are my "needs" and for them I am pleased to make the necessary payment. Obviously enough they cannot be provided by individuals acting on their own – only by public institutions charged with the duties and requiring contributions in the form of taxes or rates. No doubt the good things I have listed are the products of "the state", of the "collectivist and corporatist apparatus", the "bureaucrats", against which and whom you inveigh so weightily. Nevertheless those are the things I ask for, quite as much as for ever more commodities. Does your "central philosophical conviction" not take any account of them?

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH DENBIGH,
Flint Walls,
19 Sheridan Road, SW19.
March 25.

Churchill's hideaway

From Mr Nigel West

Sir, There has been speculation concerning the exact location of Churchill's secret wartime bunker, code-named Paddock, since the publication of his intriguing but brief reference to it in *The Second World War*, vol II. Your report on Churchill's use of the Railway Executive's headquarters under Down Street, Mayfair (March 19) suggests that Paddock's exact location remains undiscovered and that it is believed to have been sited in a disused Tube station in north London.

In fact a Cabinet file now stored in the Public Record Office, Kew, under the title "CWR/2" (Cabinet War Room/2) tells a different story. Paddock was specially constructed in the summer of 1940 in the grounds of the Post Office Research Station at Dollis Hill.

The part of Paddock that is on the surface is a windowless concrete structure and is clearly visible from Brook Road, outside the old Post Office premises. The building extends deep underground, fully justifying Churchill's comment that it was "far from the light of day" and contains some of its original equipment, including its emergency generator.

Churchill recalled attending a meeting of the War Cabinet at Paddock on September 29, 1940, and "celebrated the occasion with a vivacious lunch".

CWR/2's unusual code name may be explained by the street sign directly opposite Paddock's gates: "Paddock Road, NW2."

Yours sincerely,
NIGEL WEST,
310 Fulham Road, SW10.
March 19.

Informed consent?

From Professor Emeritus H. C. McLaren

Sir, The other day, landing at Heathrow, the pilot told us that although they were watching like hawks the plane had been landed by electronics.

I am glad to say that before this he did not ask for a show of consenting hands.

The difference between this kind of experiment and "medical" consent discussed by the expert medical team (letter, March 19) is that the medical director is not always up front like our cheerful BA pilot!

Yours sincerely,
HUGH CAMERON McLAREN,
26 Ampton Road,
Birmingham.
March 19.

Cooling-off time

From Dr E. D. Deas

Sir, So Mr Dormer (March 23) thinks that an object cannot of its own accord become cooler than its surroundings. Perhaps he would be good enough to bring this to the attention of my wife's feet, which persist in achieving this scientific impossibility.

Yours faithfully,
E. D. DEAS,
Rehwl Farm,
Ffrith,
Wrexham,
Clwyd.
March 23.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 27: By command of The Queen, the Lord Somerleyton (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport – London this afternoon upon the arrival of The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Herzog and welcomed Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

The Queen was represented by the Lord Somerleyton (Lord in Waiting) at the Memorial Service for Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden, MP (a former Cabinet Minister) which was held in St Margaret's, Westminster today.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips and Captain Mark Phillips were represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller at the Memorial Service for Mr Martin Whiteley which was held in Eton College Chapel today.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 27: Lady Angela Oswald has succeeded Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 27: The Princess of Wales, Patron, the Welsh National Opera, this morning opened and toured the new Rehearsal Studios, John Street, Cardiff.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Mrs George West and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales was represented by the Earl of St Aldwyn at the Memorial Service for Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden, MP which was held in St Margaret's Westminster today.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 27: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as Colonel-in-Chief, today visited Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps at Aldershot, and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Hampshire (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Scott, Bt).

Her Royal Highness attended a Service to mark Alexandra Day in the Royal Garrison Church of All Saints, and was present at a Reception and Luncheon given by the Corps at the QARANC Training Centre.

Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick and the Hon Mrs Whitehead were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 27: The Duke of Gloucester visited the Institute of Hydrology, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, today.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Educational Corps, today received Major-General A. J. Trythall on relinquishing the appointment of Director of Army Education and Brigadier D. E. Ryan on assuming the appointment.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 27: The Duchess of Kent today presented the awards at the Annual Composer's Award Reception, Wedgwood House, Wigmore Street, London, W1.

Miss Sarah Partridge was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
March 27: Princess Alexandra was represented by the Hon Angus Ogilvy at the Memorial Service for Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden, MP which was held in St Margaret's, Westminster today.

Queen Ingrid of Denmark celebrates her birthday today.

A memorial service for Sir Wilfred Burns will be held in the Crypt Chapel of St Paul's Cathedral at 11.30 am today.

Mr Robert Jackson, MEP, MP, regrets that he was unable to attend the memorial service for Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden, MP.

Birthdays today

The Right Rev Dr C. K. N. Bardsley, 77; Mr Dirk Bogarde, 63; Marjorie Countess of Brecknock, 84; the Hon George Bruce, 54; Professor Sir John Butterfield, 64; Mr Robert Harris, 84; Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, QC, 69; Mr Frank Judd, 49; Mr Neil Kinnock, MP, 42; Mr R. Lister, 65; Mr Clifford Mollison, 87; Mr Michael Parkinson, 49; Dame Flora Robson, 82; Lord Shaughnessy, 62; Lord Justice Stephenson, 74; Mr Richard Stilgoe, 41.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr James Leonard Curle, managing director of the Civil Aviation Authority, and Mr Anthony Pursell, regional director (South Midlands) of Lloyds Bank, to be Members of the Civil Aviation Authority.

Mr David Williams, Deputy International Director (Overseas Sales), British Railways Board, to be director of international marketing and director, Channel Tunnel from June 1 on the retirement of Mr P. A. Keen.

Mr Mark Hodges to be Chairman of the South Bank Theatre Board from April 1 to August 3.

Marriages

Mr D. M. Brock and Miss P. J. Carroll
The marriage took place in Oxford, on Saturday, March 24, between Mr David Brock and Miss Patricia Carroll. The bridesmaid was Miss Isabel Davidson and Mr Andrew Penny was best man.

Mr W. R. Griffiths and Ms A. M. Little
The service of blessing after the marriage of Mr W. Robert Griffiths and Ms Angela May Little took place quietly in Hampstead, on Saturday, March 10.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. G. I. de la Rue and Miss T. D. Dobson
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Sir Eric de la Rue, Bt, of Caldra House, Berwickshire, and the late Lady de la Rue, and Tessa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Dobson, of Stragglethorpe Grange, Lincoln.

Mr W. S. Dawson and Miss A. J. Aldridge
The engagement is announced between William Strachan, son of Mr and Mrs J. O. H. Dawson, of the Old Manse, Great Bavington, Northumberland, and Alison Jill, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Aldridge, of Bentley Wood, Halland, Sussex.

Mr M. Dixon and Miss J. Larner
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs J. Dixon, of Tiptree, and Joanne, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Larner, of Kelvedon, Essex.

Mr C. R. Floyd and Miss A. Micheal
The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alexander Floyd, of Warminster, Wiltshire, and Angela, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gregory Micheal, of Sanderstead, Surrey.

Mr R. J. A. Huxter and Miss J. M. Robson
The engagement is announced between Rupert, elder son of Mr and Mrs R. E. W. Huxter, of Boar's Hill, Oxford, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Robson, of Newark, Nottinghamshire.

Dr B. C. Little and Miss K. Jolowicz
The engagement is announced between Brian, youngest son of Dr and Mrs G. W. E. Little, of Chigwell, Essex, and Kate, elder daughter of Professor and Mrs J. A. Jolowicz, of Barrington, Cambridgeshire.

Mr P. J. L. Nash and Miss A. E. S. Vane-Tempest
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs L. Lester Nash, of Veronica Cottage, Thruxton, Hampshire, and Aline, daughter of Mr Charles Vane-Tempest, of Helsinki, and Mrs Roderick Faure Walker, of Ring Wold House, Middle Wallop, Hampshire.

Mr J. F. de V. Nettlefold and Miss J. R. Bruce-Smythe
The engagement is announced between John Frederick, only son of Mr Frederick Nettlefold of Juja Farm, Kenya, and Mrs Rice, of East Ilsley Hall, Newbury, Berkshire, and Juliette Rosalind, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Bruce-Smythe, of Acton Burnell Park, Shropshire.

Mr R. O'D Paterson and Miss A. B. Newsome
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mrs P. Laws, of Victoria, British Columbia, and the late Mr Brian O'Donnell Paterson, and Alison Bianca, younger daughter of Mrs Willem Boogerman and stepdaughter of Mr Willem Boogerman, of Riverhead Court, Hurlingham.

Mr S. R. Pirrie and Miss L. F. Rogers
The engagement is announced between Robin, only son of Mr and Mrs James Pirrie, of Kingsgate, Kent, and Lynn, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Victor Rogers, of Lower Kingsdown, Wiltshire.

Mr M. Riminton and Miss E Drury
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr Peter Riminton, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, and Mrs Sally Earle, of Perth, Western Australia, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mrs Kay Drury, of Solihull, West Midlands.

Dinners

International Maritime Industries Forum
A dinner of the International Maritime Industries Forum was held at Grosvenor House last night. Mr James Davis, chairman, presided, and the principal guest and speaker was Mr David Mitchell, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Transport. The dinner preceded the Full Forum meeting.

Among those present were:
The Liberian Ambassador, Lord Lucas of Chilworth, Dame Shelagh Roberts, MEP, Mr R B Adams, Mr A F Al-Bader, Sir Peter Baldwin, Mr R Basilico, Mr W Behrmann, Mr R A Brooks, the Rev W J Down, Mr V D'Orgeval, Mr P Louis-Dreyfus, Mr R T Fox, Mr Abas Gokal, Mr H L C Greig, Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, Mr R Illen, Mr D B Kimber, Mr W M Knighton, Mr M Kulukundis, Mr H R MacLeod, Mr A Nunn, Mr T Ogawa, Mr T J Parker, Mr D N Pateras, Sir Julian Ridsdale, MP, Mr D Ropner, Mr Seng Zhi Zing, Mr J Sharwood, Mr W B Slater, Mr A R Sultan, Dr R Stoedter and Sir Adrian Swire.

Finance Houses Association
The Chairman of the Finance Houses Association, Mr Stuart Errington, presided at the twenty-second annual dinner of the Finance Houses Association at the Savoy Hotel, London, last night. The principal guest was Mr Norman Tebbit, MP. Mr Deryk Vander Weyer responded to a toast to the guests proposed by Mr Ray Hazlehurst. Among those present were:
Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Barber, Mr Guy Barnett, MP, Sir Timothy Bevan, Sir Hugh Cubitt, Sir Gordon Borrie, Mr Graham Bright, MP, Lord Camoys, Lord Chelmer, Sir William Clark, MP, Professor G Clayton, Professor A L Diamond, Sir Gordon Downey, Mr A M Fraser, Mr Justice Gibson, Professor A G Guest, Mr Norman Lamont, MP, Sir Brian Hayes, Mr Barney Hayhoe, MP, Professor J K McLeod, Lord McGowan, Mr C W McMahon, Sir Peter Middleton, Sir Idwal Pugh, Sir Anthony Rawlinson, Mr Peter Rees, QC, MP, Lady Ricketts, Mr Robert Sheldon, MP, Lord Spens, Sir Anthony Touche, Mr Richard Wainwright, MP, Mr Gary Waller, MP, Sir Donald Walters and Sir Malcolm Wilcox.

European-Atlantic Group
The European-Atlantic Group held a dinner at St Ermins' Hotel last night in honour of the Canadian High Commissioner in London. The chairman was Lord Chalfont, chairman of the group, and Lord Layton, president, also spoke.
Among those present were:
The Austrian and Swiss Ambassadors, and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, Sheikh and Sheikha Khazal Amery, Sir Dallas and Lady Bernard, Mr Tom Clarke, MP, Mrs Elma Dangerfield, Lord Houghton of Sowerby, CH, Sir David Liddardale, Lord Maclehose of Beoch, Lady Martin, Sir John and Lady Peel, Lord Shaughnessy and Mr Noel Marshall.

University news

Aberdeen
Professsor Hamish M. Keir, Head of the Department of Biochemistry, has been designated senior vice-principal from April 1 to September 30, 1985, in succession to Professor Rutherford. Professor James C. Laidlaw has been appointed vice-principal for two and a half years from April 1.

Mr William Bradley, presently Secretary to the Hongkong University and Polytechnic grants committee, has been appointed Secretary to the university in succession to Mr T. B. Skinner, who retires at the end of September.

London
Mr Anthony Quinsee, Librarian of Chelsea College, has been appointed to the post of Librarian at Queen Mary College, from October 1.

Grant
Wolfson Foundation: £100,000 to Professor E H Andrews of the Materials Department at Queen Mary College, for work on the development of anti-adhesive coatings.

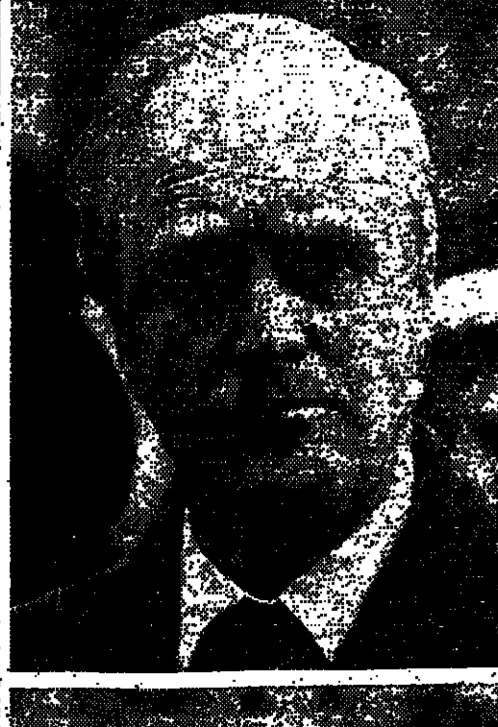
Sheffield
Appointment
Dr Ronald G. Grainger, MD, FRCP, FRCR, to the new post of professor associate in radioagnosis.

Newcastle
Appointments
Dr W. J. Cram, reader at the University of Sydney, to the professorship of plant biology from September 1, and to the headship of the department of plant biology.
Dr R. J. Fowell, lecturer in the department of geotechnical engineering, to the readership in excavation engineering from October 1.
Professor J. B. Clark, head of the department of law, to be dean of the faculty of law from August 1.
Dr R. H. Dye, senior lecturer in the department of pure mathematics, to the headship of the department from April 1.
Senior lecturers: Dr M S Baird (organic chemistry); Mr C B Burgess (adult education); Dr J A Hellen (geography); Dr T Ingman (law); Miss C Lamont (English literature); Dr A T Ratcliffe (naval architecture and shipbuilding); Dr R A Seymour (operative dentistry); Dr P M A Sherwood (inorganic chemistry); Mr K J Thomson (agricultural economics); Dr G A Turner (clinical biochemistry and metabolic medicine); Dr T E C Weekes (agricultural biochemistry and nutrition).

Bristol
The following honorary degrees are to be awarded in July:
MA: Mr Douglas Morris, general manager, Bristol Old Vic; Mr Evan Wright, registrar and secretary of the university; Miss Stella Saywell, chairman, Avon Centre, Riding for the Disabled.
DLitt: Sir David Piper, director, Ashmolean Museum; Professor L C Knights, emeritus professor of English, Cambridge University.
DSc: Professor J Th G Overbeek, Professor of Chemistry, University of Utrecht; Sir George Jefferson, chairman, British Telecom.
DMus: Mr P Maxwell Davies, composer and conductor.
LLD: Mr William Golding, author; Dr Kingman Brewster, lawyer and former US Ambassador to Britain.

Sussex
The following honorary degrees will be conferred at the summer graduation ceremony on July 17:
LLD: Sir Adam Thomson, chairman and chief executive of the Caledonian Aviation Group.
DLitt: Lord Bullock, Master of St Catherine's College, Oxford.
DSc: Professor John Harper, former head of the school of plant biology at the University College of North Wales, Bangor; Professor Sir William Hawthorne, former Master of Churchill College, Cambridge; Dr Ma Lin, vice-chancellor of the Chinese University of Hongkong; Professor George Miller, James S McDonnell distinguished professor of psychology at Princeton University.
At the winter graduation ceremony in December, the following honorary degree will be conferred:
MSc: John le P Webb, former university tutor in experimental physics.
Appointments
Mr Keith Pavitt, senior fellow, science policy research unit, has been appointed to the R. M. Phillips chair of science and technology policy studies, from October 1.
Dr Aaron Sloman, reader in philosophy and artificial intelligence, has been promoted to a professorship, from April 1.

Bath
Dr S. Mann has been appointed a lecturer in physics.
Grant
British Telecom: £76,500 to Dr C L Eden for research into facilitating the effective provision of judgemental and quantitative data to managers within the context of short, medium and long-range planning.





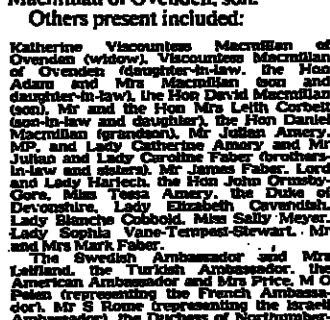


Macmillan remembered: Among the mourners at yesterday's memorial service for Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden were (clockwise, from top left): Mr Winston Churchill, MP, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone and Mr John Profumo, the former Conservative Cabinet minister. Viscount Macmillan's father, Lord Stockton, aged 90, the former Mr Harold Macmillan, decided not to attend yesterday's service: He attended his son's funeral earlier this month. (Photographs: Chris Harris).

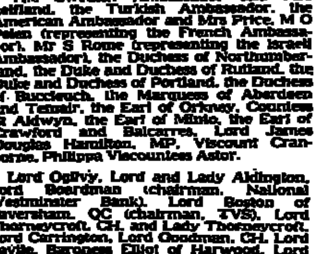
Memorial services

Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden, MP
The Queen was represented by Lord Somerleyton at a memorial service for Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden, MP, held at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday. The Prince of Wales was represented by Earl St Aldwyn and Princess Alexandra by the Hon Angus Ogilvy. Cannon Trevor Beeson officiated, assisted by Canon Donald Gray, who led the prayers, and Mgr Alexander Nadson, who pronounced the blessing. The Lord Chancellor, the Prime Minister, the Lord President of the Council and Viscountess Whitelaw, the Speaker and Mrs Weatherill, Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party also representing the Leader of the Social Democratic Party, Lord and Lady Home of the Hirsel, Mr Edward Heath, MP, and the Deputy Lord Mayor of Westminster attended. The Earl of Stockton, OM, father, was represented by Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden, son.

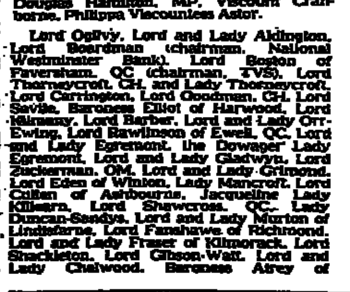
Others present included:



Katherine Viscountess Macmillan of Ovenden (widow), Viscountess Macmillan of Ovenden (daughter-in-law), the Hon Adam and Mrs Macmillan (son and daughter-in-law), the Hon David Macmillan (son), Mr and the Hon Mrs Leith Corbett (son-in-law and daughter), the Hon Daniel Macmillan (grandson), Mr Julian Amery, MP, and Lady Catherine Amery and Mr Julian and Lady Caroline Faber (brothers-in-law and sisters), Mr James Faber, Lord and Lady Harlech, the Hon John Ormsby-Gore, Miss Tessa Amery, the Duke of Devonshire, Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, Lady Blanche Cobbold, Miss Sally Meyer, Lady Sophia Vane-Tempest-Stewart, Mr and Mrs Mark Faber.



The Swedish Ambassador and Mrs Leifland, the Turkish Ambassador, the American Ambassador and Mrs Price, M O Pelen (representing the French Ambassador), Mr S Rome (representing the Israeli Ambassador), the Duchess of Northumberland, the Duke and Duchess of Rutland, the Duke and Duchess of Portland, the Duchess of Buccleuch, the Marquess of Aberdeen and Temair, the Earl of Orkney, Countess St Aldwyn, the Earl of Minto, the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Lord James Douglas Hamilton, MP, Viscount Cranborne, Philippa Viscountess Astor.



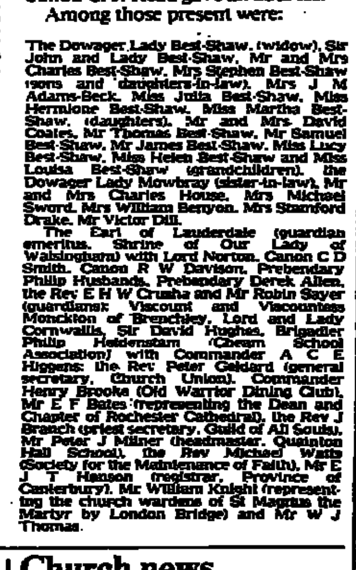
Lord Ogilvy, Lord and Lady Aldington, Lord Boardman (chairman, National Westminster Bank), Lord Boston of Faversham, QC (chairman, TVS), Lord Thorneycroft, CH, and Lady Thorneycroft, Lord Carrington, Lord Goodman, CH, Lord Savile, Baroness Elliot of Harwood, Lord Kilmany, Lord Barber, Lord and Lady Orr-Ewing, Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, QC, Lord and Lady Egremont, the Dowager Lady Egremont, Lord and Lady Gladwyn, Lord Zuckerman, OM, Lord and Lady Grimond, Lord Eden of Winton, Lady Mancroft, Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, Jacqueline Lady Killearn, Lord Shawcross, QC, Lady Duncan-Sandys, Lord and Lady Murton of Lindisfarne, Lord Fanshawe of Richmond, Lord and Lady Fraser of Kilmorack, Lord Shackleton, Lord Gibson-Watt, Lord and Lady Chalwood, Baroness Airey of Abingdon, Lord Nugent of Guildford, Lord Campbell of Alloway, Lady Peyton of Yeovil, Lord Maclehose of Beoch, Lord Molson, Lady Dacre of Glanton, Baroness Young, Baroness Pike, Lord Greenway, Lord St Oswald, Lord Glendevon, Lord Lever of Manchester, Lord Barnett.



The Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the Secretary of State for the Environment, the Secretary of State for Employment, Mr John Wakeham, MP, Mr Ian Gow, MP, Mr John Selwyn Gummer, MP (chairman, Conservative Party) and Mrs Gummer, Mr Norman Lamont, MP, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Mr Michael Cocks, MP, Mr Francis Pym, MP, Mr Enoch Powell, MP, Mr and Mrs Jeremy Thorpe, Mr David Howell, MP, Mr Roy Jenkins, MP, Sir Ian Gilmour, MP, Sir Peter Blaker, MP, Mr Peter Thomas, QC, MP, Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, MP, Lady Barbara Bosson, the Hon John Jolliffe, the Hon Mrs Jesson, the Hon Mrs Charles Fordyce, the Hon Hugh and Mrs Astor, the Hon Alan and Mrs Hare, the Hon Torquil Macleod, the Hon Mark Lennox-Boyd, MP, the Hon Mrs Bridge, the Hon Charles Morrison, MP, the Hon Sir Anthony Berry, MP, the Hon Timothy Sainsbury, MP, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Robert Boscawen, MP.



Sir Eric Yarrow, Sir Anthony Meyer, MP, and Lady Meyer, Lady Ripley, Sir Richard Thompson, Sir Fitzroy and the Hon Lady Maclean, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, MP, Sir Julian Berney, Lady d'Avigdor Goldsmid, Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP, and Lady Biggs-Davison, Lady (Charles) Villiers, Sir John Tilney, Sir Michael Shaw, MP, Sir Seymour Egerton, Sir David and Lady Llewellyn, Sir James and Lady Scott-Hopkins; Sir Paul Bryan, MP, and Lady Bryan, Sir David Price, MP, and Lady Price, Sir Graham Rowlandson, Sir Hugh Rossi, MP, Sir Bernard Braine, MP, Lady Legge-Bourke, Sir Spencer Le Marchant, Sir Woodrow and Lady Wyatt, Sir Hector Monro, MP, Sir Philip and Lady Woodfield, Sir Stephen Hastings, Sir Walter Bromley-Davenport, Sir Nigel Fisher, Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC, Sir Robin and Lady Chichester-Clark, Sir John and Lady Peel, Lady Ashdown, Sir Gerard Vaughan, MP, Sir William Clark, MP, Sir Emmanuel Kay, Sir Tatton Brinton, Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, Sir William Deakin, Sir Philip Goodhart, MP, Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith, MP, and Lady Johnson-Smith, Sir Antony Buck, QC, MP, Sir Charles Johnston (representing the national chairman, CEI) and Lady Johnston.



Major Hugo and Lady Caroline Waterhouse, Mr Cranley Onslow, MP, and Lady June Onslow, Mr John and Lady Gillian Anderson, Mrs Brian McGreevy, Mr Victor Montagu, Mr Alistair Horne, Dr Anthony Kenny (Balliol College, Oxford) and Mrs Kenny, Mme Aniela Mieczyslawska (Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum), Mr E Wistrich (European Movement), Mr and Mrs Jack Steinberg, Mr John Profumo, Mr Winston Churchill, MP, Dr Alan Glyn, MP, Miss Patricia Rawlings, Mr Alastair Forbes, Miss Moura Lympany, Miss R Aimetti, Mr and Mrs P Brewer, Mr and Mrs F Cordier, Miss E Harding, Mrs D James, Mr J James, Mr J Macfarlane, Mr B de Marwicz, Mr and Mrs G McEvoy, Mr and Mrs G Nuttall, Miss B Pearson, Mr and Mrs Thompson, Colonel and Mrs J Wetherall, Mr D White, Mr Bill Benyon, MP, Mr Michael Howard, QC, MP, Mr and Mrs John Hay, Mr and Mrs Vane Ivanovic, Mr John Stokes, MP, Mrs K Aslpowicz (Anglo-Byelorussian Society), Count Edward Raczynski, Mr Robert Walter (European Democrat Forum), Mr Cecil Dawson (European Educational Research Trust and Conservative Group for Europe).

Mr Alan Lee Williams (English-Speaking Union), Mr John Lacey (Conservative and Unionist Central Office, South Eastern Area), Mr James Hadley (Westminster in Europe), Mr Victor Lucas (Board of Deputies of British Jews and Conservative Friends of Israel), Mr John Maddix (editor, "Nature"), Mr Robert Linsley (Carlton Club), Mr Peter Chandler (Turf Club), Colonel and Mrs W H Whitbread, Mr Laurence Dopson ("Nursing Times"), and representatives of Macmillan Publishers, William Collins and Sons, Constable and Company, members of the Sikh community and other Members of Parliament.

Colonel W. J. Shoolbred
A memorial service for Colonel Walter Shoolbred was held at St Michael's Church, Chester Square, yesterday. The Rev E. G. H. Saunders officiated. Brigadier W. M. T. Magan read the lesson and Mr John Brunel Cohen, chairman of the "Not Forgotten" Association, gave an address.

Requiem Mass

Sir John Best-Shaw
Requiem Mass for Sir John Best-Shaw was celebrated by Prebendary Herbert Moore, assisted by the Rev Perry Butler and the Rev Robert Browne, also representing the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, at St Stephen's, Gloucester Road, yesterday. The Rev John Shepherd, representing the Bishop of London, was robed and in the sanctuary. Mr Stephen Best-Shaw, son, read the lesson and Canon C. J. Read gave an address.

Among those present were:
The Dowager Lady Best-Shaw, (widow), Sir John and Lady Best-Shaw, Mr and Mrs Charles Best-Shaw, Mrs Stephen Best-Shaw (sons and daughters-in-law), Mrs J M Adams-Beck, Miss Julia Best-Shaw, Miss Hermione Best-Shaw, Miss Martha Best-Shaw, (daughters), Mr and Mrs David Coates, Mr Thomas Best-Shaw, Mr Samuel Best-Shaw, Mr James Best-Shaw, Miss Lucy Best-Shaw, Miss Helen Best-Shaw and Miss Louisa Best-Shaw (grandchildren), the Dowager Lady Mowbray (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Charles House, Mrs Michael Sword, Mrs William Benyon, Mrs Stamford Drake, Mr Victor Dill.

The Earl of Lauderdale (guardian emeritus, Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham) with Lord Norton, Canon C D Smith, Canon R W Davison, Prebendary Philip Husbands, Prebendary Derek Allen, the Rev E H W Crusha and Mr Robin Sayer (guardians); Viscount and Viscountess Monckton of Brenchley, Lord and Lady Cornwallis, Sir David Hughes, Brigadier Philip Heidenstam (Cheam School Association) with Commander A C E Higgens; the Rev Peter Geldard (general secretary, Church Union), Commander Henry Brooke (Old Warrior Dining Club), Mr E F Bates (representing the Dean and Chapter of Rochester Cathedral), the Rev J Branch (priest secretary, Guild of All Souls), Mr Peter J Milner (headmaster, Quainton Hall School), the Rev Michael Watts (Society for the Maintenance of Faith), Mr E J T Hanson (registrar, Province of Canterbury), Mr William Knight (representing the church wardens of St Magnus the Martyr by London Bridge) and Mr W J Thomas.

Latest wills

Violet Carson leaves £193,000

Mrs Violet Helen Carson, of Blackpool, Lancashire, the actress, pianist and singer, who achieved international fame as Ena Sharples, in the long-running television serial *Coronation Street* left estate valued at £193,190 net.

Mr Kenelm Ricardo Peter Bousfield, of Colchester, Essex, left estate valued at £728,578 net.

Mr Reginald Meredith, of Stockport, Greater Manchester, who died intestate, left estate valued at £497,628 net.

Mr Ronald Kinloch Anderson, of Hampstead, north London, pianist and piano teacher, formerly artistic director at EMI Records and the pianist of the Robert Masters Quartet, left estate valued at £173,843 net. He left his music library not otherwise bequeathed to Edinburgh Public Library Music Department.

Mr Ernest Albert Sarsham, of Markyate, Hertfordshire, left estate valued at £831,024 net.



Violet Carson, who left £193,190

Mrs Joyce Mary Davenport, of Bathwick Hill, Bath, left estate valued at £1,177,451 net.

Recent estates include (net, before tax paid):
Essex, Mrs Phyllis Sybil, of Hampstead, north London £232,727

Church news

First Bishop of Bolton named

The Right Rev David Galliford, Suffragan Bishop of Hulme since 1975, has been appointed Bishop of Bolton. The Queen approved the creation of the Suffragan See of Bolton last month.

Eton College

Lent half at Eton College ended yesterday. The Newcastle Scholarship has been awarded to D. W. Runciman, OS. The Newcastle medallist is J. F. Boff, KS, the Wilder Divinity prize has been awarded to J. N. B. Carleton Paget, OS, and the Keynes prize for Economics to W. V. Wellesley. The Queen's prize for French has been awarded to J. P. S. Whyatt, KS, amd for German to W. J. Hely-Hutchinson. In the final of the house football Mr J. G. L. Nichols's defeated Mr T. S. B. Card's by 6 points to one. Mr J. N. B. Cook's won the Athletics Cup. Summer half begins on April 25.

OBITUARY

AHMED SEKOU TOURÉ

President of Guinea

President Ahmed Sekou Touré of Guinea, who died on March 26 in Cleveland, Ohio, at the age of 62, was the most radical of the leaders to emerge in France's Black African colonies during the struggle for independence. Unhappily, in later years he became known as one of Africa's most oppressive rulers, although a "moderate" in international affairs.

He was the only national leader in the French African territories with the single-mindedness and self-confidence to opt for complete independence and severance of ties with France in the referenda of 1958. It was perhaps easier for him to take this courageous step as Guinea's economy, being largely based on exportable minerals like bauxite, was less dependent on traditional French markets than the other mainly agricultural francophone states.

His aim was the creation of what he called *une democratie populairé*, a one-party state based on Marxist principles and launched with revolutionary slogans like "Better proverty in liberty than riches in slavery". If his achievements in terms of economic prosperity, individual liberty and administrative efficiency and honesty often fell short of expectations, he himself showed a remarkable talent for survival in the face of considerable internal and external opposition.

Sakou Touré was born at Faranah in upper Guinea on January 9, 1922. His parents were peasants and his only advantage of birth was a clan kinship with Samory Touré the national hero of early resistance to French occupation.

A Muslim, his early education was at a local Koranic school and a technical school at Conakry. Here he was expelled for his part in a food strike and thus missed the opportunites for higher education in west Africa and France which were open to other Africans of his calibre. He became a largely self-educated man and always retained a scorn for the French educated *evolués* and the intellectual élite who tended to dominate nationalist movements in the French-speaking territories.

From humble employment as a clerk in a subsidiary of Unilever called Niger Français and in various government departments, he rose quickly by hard work and organizing ability to a position of power in the trade unions and political parties associated with them both in Guinea and in French west Africa as a whole.

He founded the Guinean branch of the *Confédération Général du Travail* in 1946, and took over the leadership of the *Parti Démocratique de Guinée* in 1952. Through these organisations he made contact with the *Rassemblement Démocratique Africain* which embraced the whole of francophone Africa south of the Sahara, and with the French CGT and the World Federation of Trade Unions, all of which were then under Communist influence.

He was elected Mayor of Conakry in 1955, Deputy for Guinea in the French Assembly in the following year, and by 1957 when his party won 56 out of the 60 seats in the newly established territorial assembly, he was the undisputed leader of a country which, because of his Marxist ideas and Communist affiliations and the strength of his popular support and party organisations, was regarded by many as the most explosive powder-keg in west Africa. He used his powers under the new constitution to destroy the powers of the traditional chiefs and replace them by village councils and to pursue a policy of radical Africanisation.

When in 1958 President de Gaulle offered the territories south of the Sahara the choice by referendum between limited autonomy within the comfortable framework of the French



Community and complete independence out in the cold, Sekou Touré led his country to opt alone for the latter. He was predictably elected the first President of the new Republic of Guinea.

Suddenly and in some ways harshly deprived of the benefits of the long-standing French connection, President Sekou Touré turned to the USSR and for a time enjoyed a honeymoon period of economic and cultural relations with the East. In 1961 however he found grounds to expel the Soviet ambassador, and thereafter pursued the policy of non-alignment in international relations which was then becoming fashionable and profitable among the emergent nations of the third world.

He flirted for a time with the idea of a union between Guinea, Mali and Nkrumah's Ghana, and was an enthusiastic supporter of pan-African conferences and aspirations, but after 1964 he became increasingly preoccupied with his own domestic problems and with protecting himself and his regime against real and imagined threats both within the country and from ouside.

In November 1970 he was nearly unseated and killed by an attack launched from Portuguese Guinea and this led to an intensification of the rigours and the isolation of what had already become a harsh and closely regulated society.

Guinea became known as one of the most brutal of Africa's one-party states. Thousands of political prisoners were tortured and hundreds condemned to death by starvation, including the former Secretary-General of th Organization of African Unity, Diallo Telli, who had been a close adviser of Touré's but eventually fell victim to his paranoia, being accused, while minister of Justice, of involvement in a tribalist plot.

In spite of this reputation, Sekou Touré reappeared on the international stage in his last years as a "moderate" Islamic figure, closely associated with King Hassan of Morocco, whose cause he championed in the dispute over Western Sahara. In 1982 he led the delegation sent by the Islamic Conference Organization to attempt mediation in the Iran-Iraq war.

He also played a leading role in the last Franco-African summit in Vittel, and he was expected to host the OAU summit this summer, thereby becoming the next OAU chairman.

Sekou Touré was an honest, tough, brash and colourful man who drove himself and others hard. He was strong and handsome and sometimes charming, and ha seemingly inexhaustible energy in pursuit of his political aims and his private pleasures. He was a fine speaker and possessed a charismatic quality which in his early years elicited fanatical popular support. It is sad that a man who set out with such distinctive ideals, and achieved such singular distinction in African affairs should be chiefly remembered as the Draconian ruler of a country with a million exiles.

Science report

The mussel's misfortune, amid the politics of pollution

By Tony Samstag

It is the misfortune of the mussel, in common with other filter-feeding bivalves, that it concentrates from its aquatic environment many of the more pernicious man-made pollutants, in particular the transuranic elements, halogenated hydrocarbons such as PCBs and DDT, petroleum hydrocarbons, and heavy metals.

But the mussel's misfortune is man's – and, more specifically, scientific man's – gain. Mussels are ideal "sentinels" for studying the extent and severity of marine pollution: in many ways they might have been bred for it. They are extremely widespread (especially the species *Mytilus edulis*) through the world's coastal waters, and therefore offer a constant metabolism as a baseline for sampling; they are sedentary; they concentrate many of the more important pollutants by factors of at least a thousand over their seawater concentrations, an immense headstart for the analyst, and they are common enough that frequent sampling will have no appreciable effect on their populations.

Bivalves generally are unusually resistant to pollutants and often survive where other organisms have perished. They are easily transplanted from one area to another, making comparisons of polluted and less polluted environments relatively simple, and they respond much more quickly to pollutants (or the absence of them) than the seawaters and sediments themselves.

The occasional "mussel watch" has been organized by several countries since the seventies, and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization recently sponsored the formation of a task team on marine pollution research and monitoring using commercially exploited shellfish as determinants.

Now a meeting of coastal marine scientists has called for an international mussel watch, possibly under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme, at a surprisingly reasonable estimated cost of less than £500,000.

The proposal is felt to be especially urgent in the light of apparent increases in the use of persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides in the southern hemisphere and the tropics. Developing countries, it is feared, are picking up where the West left off after the environmental dangers of those substances were first recognized, and recent evidence suggests that levels in the oceans of the north and south may now be the same.

It is down to the mussels to adduce evidence either way because, in the diplomatic words of one scientist, production and use data concerning pesticides are virtually unobtainable so long as "sovereign nations categorize them as proprietary information to protect their economic interests or their environmental attitudes".

Source: *The Siren*, no 23, United Nations Environment Programme, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10.

Birmingham

The Times Midland Correspondent, Craig Seton, looks at Britain's second city which in earlier days claimed to house 1,000 trades. Now the search is for new jobs in high technology industries and the service sector.



Tom Caulcott, Chief Executive of Birmingham City Council: "This is a brash, dynamic and go-ahead place prepared to knock things down and start again . . ."

Pictures by John Reardon

Birmingham's postwar prosperity has been shattered, but Britain's second city is vigorously disinclined to be regarded as a has-been. Instead, it is becoming boastful again, actively encouraging a brash, self-confident image as it sets about the mammoth task of generating new wealth and creating desperately-needed jobs.

The wealth of this city of over one million people ran right through into the early 1970s. Only now are the newspaper cuttings chronicling its rather self-indulgent sense of well-being turning yellow.

A decade can be a long time in the life of a city. The area's heavy reliance on "metal bashing" industries – cars, foundry work, electrical and mechanical engineering – made it especially vulnerable when the fierce winds of the recession tore through the old, insecure manufacturing base.

Birmingham intends to rely heavily once again on the innovative and entrepreneurial skills for which it was renowned. Regeneration, though, can still be a dispiriting business. The triumph of new jobs created can be quickly put into perspective when another industrial giant dumps several thousand jobs in one go.

Mr Harold Blumenthal, chairman of the city's powerful economic development committee, said: "One of the worst problems is that Birmingham was too early on the industrial scheme. A great deal of our industrial buildings were Victorian or early 1930s and not at all suitable for the modern industry we need now. One of our primary aims has been to recycle those sites to make space available for new developments. We also hope the advantages of Birmingham's communications, with excellent motorways and rail links and an international airport in the heart of the country, will balance out the deficiencies".

The drive for new jobs is concentrating very much in two areas; the creation of modern, science-based and high-tech industries, and the expansion of service sector employment. The city council, at present Tory controlled, believes that public money should be used – in large amounts – to "prime the pumps", get projects off the ground and demonstrate the confidence that will attract sector investment.

It is not surprising, therefore, that council leaders queue up to state their excitement and enthusiasm for the city's largest project, a proposed £121m international convention centre for the city centre. The complex of halls and a five star hotel which, if built and completed by the end of the decade, should provide up to 2,000 new jobs and bring at least £40m a year to the local economy.

Councillor Neville Bosworth, the Tory leader of the council, says the project will bring Birmingham new jobs, new wealth and attract international attention. Mr Bernard Zissman, chairman of the general purposes committee, said: "It is part of the 1980s revolution in the city. Manufacturing will still form the main plank of our industry, but we are having to move into the service sector, which is labour intensive, and redirect jobs there."

The city council proposes that it should put up about £90m of the cash involved, the rest to be attracted from the private sector. Recently, a council delegation went to Brussels to state its case for EEC aid for the scheme and is hopeful that up to 40 per cent of the council's share could be met from Community funds.

Difficulties facing even the optimists in Birmingham are enormous. Between March 1975 and March 1982, about 324,000 jobs were lost in the West Midlands – 96 per cent in manufacturing. Unemployment in the city is just under 90,000, as high as 30 or more per cent in some wards which also have all usual problems associated with inner city deprivation.

Facing these problems, Birmingham's leaders adopt a no-nonsense, "let's get on with it" approach and are scathing about their counterparts in other depressed conurbations where, they say, the only noticeable movement is the anguished wringing of hands.

The Conservatives, who returned to power in May 1982, set about council service and manpower with Thatcherite vigour. The rates were cut for the first time in 40 years, by 15p (12 per cent), which they said saved a large ratepayer like BL £500,000 a year. The budget for 1984-85, which at £373m is exactly in line with the Government's target, will see a second rate cut of about 5p (4½ per cent). The authority's manpower will have been cut from over 56,000 four years ago, to about 48,000 in the next financial year.

Mr Bosworth, the council leader, said it was imperative that before the council played its part in generating wealth, it "gets the basics right".

"We are continually combing our services and getting more efficient at a lower cost. The Government and the local authority are setting the climate to get things moving to revitalize and regenerate the economy of Birmingham."

The Conservatives have a majority of only three and may well hand over control to Labour in the May elections. Councillor Dick Knowles, in a recent policy statement, said: "We must concentrate the major part of our programme on those firms that are doing well, whose long-term prospects are good, but who may be facing financial problems at the moment."

Special attention also had to be paid to science-based industries. Aston Science Park "should prove to be the touchpaper for a new explosion of technical skills in the city," he said.

POPULATION (1981 Census)	
Birmingham City	1,006,527
City Centre (1980 Est)	22,000
West Midlands Metropolitan County	2,628,419
West Midlands Region	5,148,345

BIRMINGHAM PROFILE	
Area	65,288 acres
Public Open Space	7,228 acres
Land for new housing within 5 yrs	980 acres
Estimated dwelling capacity	14,082 units
Private sector dwellings built 1982	1,284 units
Dwellings in owner occupation	52.6 per cent

DISTANCES AND TIMES
Road distances (and rail times)
To London 105m (1h 31mins)
To Manchester 80m (1h 39mins)
To Bristol 81m (1h 29mins)
To Glasgow 292m (4h 20mins)

CITY CENTRE PROFILE	
Area (Central Area District Plan)	2,260 acres
Retail floorspace (1977)	2,123,000 sq ft net
Off-street car park spaces	12,890

The Tory administration's rate-cutting zeal has put pressure on the Labour group over its policies. The group is not slow to take part in the usual ideological jousting and protests vigorously about cuts in services. In reality, however, there is a considerable degree of bipartisanship. It says it will not exceed the Government's spending target and has supported job creating activities. It is also committed to the convention centre, "provided the finance is available".

One scheme in which the council played a dual role with the private sector is well off the ground. The city and Lloyds Bank each put up £1m and with the University of Aston has created the Aston Science Park.

The University of Birmingham, with city help, has also created its own Institute of Research and Development to improve and extend the "technological transfer" between university and industry.

Last year created a development and promotion unit, with a budget of £2m a year and staff of 16, to dovetail its numerous economic initiatives into a clear, concerted drive. A convention and visitor bureau is in operation to develop and promote the city's increasingly keen interest in lucrative "business tourism".

While the council seeks EEC aid for the convention centre and the science park, it is still at odds with the Government over regional policy. The imaginative and enterprising Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce best sums up the local attitude: The West Midlands should be able to compete for investment on equal terms with areas elsewhere in Britain whose unemployment levels are actually lower, but as long as the Government is committed to an assisted areas map, the area has to be on it.

Two major schemes in the city have recently attracted record urban development grants from the Department of the Environment. One of nearly £6m – the largest granted in the country – is towards the £23m bill for development of a high quality engineering park on 45 acres of land at Witton, owned by industrial giant IMI.

The development should create about 1,000 jobs. It is intended to attract a wide range of new and existing companies, especially those likely to draw on the city's skilled engineering workforce.

An UDG of £4.7m has also been granted towards the £35m Paradise Circus development, four office blocks, an hotel and multi-storey car park, which is being created out of a partnership of the city and developers Henry Boot. A new concert hall and lecture theatre will also be built there for the city.

While attempting to regenerate industry, there are also large areas of capital expenditure devoted to the rehabilitation of the city's ageing housing stock and buying up land and "recycling" old factory sites. Housing capital expenditure is currently £121m – three times the level of 1981-82.

The massive shopping, office and road developments in the city centre of the 1960s and 1970s may give Birmingham a brash, bold, not to say inelegant visage, but in the inner city areas many of the old problems remain. An estimated 180,000 dwellings are regarded as unsatisfactory, 20,000 people are on the housing waiting list, and demographic changes now mean that the largest demand for council accommodation is from single people.

About 15 per cent of the population is now living in households where the head of the family was born in a New Commonwealth country or Pakistan, and many of the ethnic "Brummies" are living in the poorest areas.

The council has sold more than 6,000 council houses to sitting tenants. Many of the 429 high-rise blocks in the city – the result of slum clearances – are now themselves in need of urgent repair. The council has an extensive programme of council housing improvements at a cost of £31m this year.

Mr Tom Caulcott, the city chief executive, joins the elected leaders in his refusal to be downhearted or pessimistic about the city's future.

"This is a brash, dynamic and go ahead place, prepared to knock things down and start again", he said. "It does not accept failure easily. When the economic upturn comes we must be ready to take advantage of it as much, if not more, than any other local authority in the country".

But for all the confidence, there is more than a note of cautious realism. Councillor Blumenthal said: "Birmingham is in a very difficult situation. We are losing jobs in thousands and gaining them in tens and hundreds. We cannot do the job ourselves; but at least we can prime the pump.

"At worst, we are getting money circulating and at best we are creating new industry. I am not pessimistic. The local authority can give leadership and set an example. We are the "enablers" – we will let people do their thing and be a success."

The race to put a city back on its feet

Two trainee hairdressers of the MSC-funded Raymond Youth Training Scheme.

Birmingham's nineteenth century development produced the aphorism, the city of a thousand trades. Statistically spurious perhaps, yet the phrase accurately described a broad, buoyant economy. Birmingham's rich diversity provided an industrial heritage which ranged from innovation in science and technology to craft trades (jewellery, gunmaking and silver), brass and copperware, manufacturing (cars, engineering, toys and chocolate) and banking (Lloyds).

The city's coat of arms proclaiming "Forward" correctly suggested vigour and confidence. Birmingham had surged ahead as an urban workshop, "made in Birmingham" implying a worldwide market penetration for its products. In the twentieth century, Birmingham's long-standing ability to harness science to industry and to market its product made the city the home of internationally famous names: Leyland, Tube Investment, Dunlop, Cadbury-Schweppes, Lucas, GKN, Albright and Wilson and IMI.

Perhaps the writing was on the wall for a long time. The international shift of economic gravity away from Britain and western Europe, first to North America and then to Japan and South-east Asia has been a secular movement of long standing. British exports have progressively lost their competitive edge and there has been a sustained failure to invest in and reinvigorate aging industrial plant.

Structural change in the national economy has meant that manufacturing now accounts for less than one-third of all jobs. Some regions with a larger share of declining industries have been hard hit: the West Midlands suffered through its concentration of motor manufacture and associated trades.

Nationally, the many difficulties have culminated in a rapid collapse of the economies of British cities, an experience which Birmingham has not avoided. The big city which for many years had been a magnet of attraction for both people and manufacturing activity has now become a pole of dispersal. New economic growth has sought out locationally advantageous sites in the suburbs and beyond the green belt in the expanding towns, and a reverse tide of population flow is leaving the unlovely cities for greener pastures.

The effect on Birmingham has been disastrous. Between 1971 and 1982 more than 126,000 jobs were lost in the city, a figure similar to the whole of Scotland and far in excess of that of Wales. Moreover, the worst may not yet be past: if there were to be a further decline of total employment in the West Midlands region of 10 per cent by 1990, and this concentrated on manufacturing, then a further 48,000 jobs in the city would go. The chain reaction in employment sees manufacturing generate a demand for local services, from which earnings support a range of personal services.

Since 1945 Britain has operated a regional policy. Successive legislation has varied the scale and direction of aid to regions in economic difficulty, but basically a stick and carrot policy has sought to control development in the Midlands, East Anglia, the South and the South-east and provide grant and infrastructure investment for the remainder of the country. Birmingham conspicuously failed to benefit from a strategy based on a concept of redistributing footloose industry.

There is now much greater realism about regional economic planning. If there is no footloose industry to redistribute, attention must turn to a revival of local economies in the cities themselves. If Birmingham was the unintended victim of the asssisted area policy, it must explore the potential of local effort and self help.

The efforts made over the past ten years by both public and private sectors are praiseworthy. Much more has been done than is generally recognised. For a city in economic change, it can scarcely be criticized for a lack of initiative.

Whether it can all happen fast enough and on a large enough scale has yet to be seen.

The dire problems are being tackled at a number of different levels, and by different agencies, both public and private. The question of the availability of industrial land is a matter for the planning authority. The city at present has about 4,600 acres in industrial use and it has been calculated that about 1,250 acres of additional industrial land will be needed over the next ten years in packages of new, larger sites, as for example in the Woodgate Valley.

The City Council offers a comprehensive package of aid. The Business Employment Scheme run through the chief executive's department and the industrial development group of the city planning department both provide help and advice to new business enterprises. The latter manages the city's New Enterprise Workshops; at present there are three of these containing 60 individual units for embryonic commercial ventures.

Other city initiatives include the Aston Science Park, a joint venture with Lloyds Bank and the University of Aston. There is also the Innovation Centre, a joint enterprise with the National Westminster Bank, intended to provide guidance and advice to low-to-medium technology industries. The Information Technology Centre is another joint venturer with the private sector to provide training in computers for young people. Finally, four industrial improvement areas have been declared (one comprising the jewellery quarter) in which the renovation of premises can be grant aided and the environment improved.

Meanwhile, the city council makes full use of urban development grants to help stimulate private sector investment. The two largest schemes approved nationally are both in Birmingham: a £4.68m grant for commercial development at Paradise Circus and a £5.7m grant for an industrial engineering park at Witton.

Heavy public sector investment has as its context the urban programme, implemented through the partnership committee. Since the Inner Urban Areas Act, 1978, there has been a vigorous attempt to switch the stream of resource allocation from the outer metropolitan areas to the inner cores and economic aid has been part of this strategy.

The University of Birmingham meantime has launched an Institute of Research and Development to foster links with industry and commerce and to enhance the transfer of technology. Rather differently from a science park, it is not designed simply to provide land or buildings for manufacturing, rather, its concern is with the creation of prototypes, the exploitation of products and the application of medical and high technological research.

Economic change can be painful; at a time of national and international recession, it is sure to be so. Successful adaptation to new circumstances demands creativity. Birmingham's institutions in the form of local government, private industry, commerce, banks and higher education seem collectively to have both the energy and the ideas.

It is a race against time, however; social protest at unemployment and declining life chances feeds too readily on slowness and failure.

Gordon E. Cherry
Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, Dean, Faculty of Commerce and Social Science, University of Birmingham.

Enveloping – a protective covering developed for sheltering troops in the Falklands used by contractors in the City Council's Envelope Scheme to protect residents while work continues on their homes.

The Black Country choice

In the next few weeks the House of Commons will debate a bill that will start the two year demolition process of the ten-year-old West Midlands County Council.

Its expected demise will bring an end to an unhappy decade of local government in the West Midlands, but the fiercest arguments being fought out in town and county halls is over what will replace it.

It is an argument that cuts right across party lines. Behind the scenes some leading Conservative advocates of abolition of the metropolitan county councils have been working hard to fight off the Government's proposals to replace the county council with a series of joint boards.

Indeed it seems they want to expunge the very word "West Midlands" from the municipal vocabulary.

"They created the term West Midlands ten years ago. I do not like the term. Nobody knows where it is. If you say you come from Coventry everybody knows where it is. I do not know even if there is such a thing as the West Midlands", said Councillor Neville Bosworth, the Conservative leader of Birmingham City Council.

"Somebody who lives in Wolverhampton is more likely to go to New York in their lifetime than to go to Coventry."

It is that feeling that the towns and cities of the West Midlands have different problems and characters that has led to such intensive lobbying since last summer.

The Government's White Paper, *Streamlining the Cities*, proposes that the police, fire, buses and local rail services should be run by three separate joint boards, made up of appointed district councillors from each of the seven district councils in the West Midlands.

But a lobby organized by the West Midlands Districts Committee, chaired by Councillor Bosworth, is pressing hard for the West Midlands Police and Fire services to be broken up into three separate forces. The only joint board that should be set up, the seven district councils argue, is the Passenger Transport Authority.

Mr Bosworth explained that the opposition of the districts committee to the joint boards does not stem from the popular belief that they are just more quangos.

"We have at present a police authority which deals with 3.5 million to four million people. It is too large and we think it would be more efficiently run and more economically run if it is divided into three forces."

Those three forces would cover the Black Country (made up of Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Dudley and Walsall); Birmingham and a third force covering Coventry, Solihull and possibly Warwickshire, which currently has one of the smallest forces in the country.

The seven districts argue that breaking up the police and fire will mean more accountable policing, closer liaison with teachers, the youth services, housing management and the social services provided by the district councils.

Continued on page 19

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Arguments still rumble about the 'West Midlands'

WEST MIDLANDS UNEMPLOYED JANUARY 1984

Whitchurch 811
Market Drayton 876
Stoke-on-Trent 25,070
Leek 1,254
Oswestry 1,617
Uttoxeter 674
Burton upon Trent 3,434
Stafford 4,377
Wolverhampton 24,677
Walsall 29,073
Shrewsbury 4,670
Coventry 36,979
Oakengates 13,269
Dudley/Sandwell 47,754
Ludlow 1,282
Rugby 4,086
Leominster 742
Kidderminster 5,761
Redditch 5,318
Leamington and Warwick 5,076
Worcester 9 453
Stratford upon Avon 2,016
Hereford 4,558
Ledbury 386
Ross-on-Wye 842
Evesham 1,261

Source: Department of Employment

continued from page 18

"Each of the three forces will cover a population of more than one million people. They will be larger than many existing forces up and down the country", said Mr Bosworth.

When a delegation from the West Midlands districts met Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office, on February 8, they were able to back up their case with a submission from Sir Philip Knights, the Chief Constable of the 6,700 strong West Midlands Police Force.

"We are awaiting a decision from the Home Office. The Department of Environment, we are assured understand our case and are on our side in this matter", said Mr Bosworth. "The White Paper proposing abolition of the metropolitan county councils does not argue for uniformity across the country. It says it will be flexible on arrangements. The fire service can go with the police."

Officially all the Home Office will say is: "At present there are no plans to change force boundaries."

Not surprisingly the lobby for the break up of the West Midlands Police and Fire services has the support of Councillor Jack Edmonds, the Conservative leader of Dudley Council, one of the four Black Country boroughs.

But Mr Edmonds has managed to bring along with him the Labour leaders of Wolverhampton and Sandwell as well as the Conservative-Liberal coalition in control in Walsall.

Indeed a "mini Black Country council" has developed in recent months. It started with joint meetings to discuss the problems caused by disused limestone workings.

Mr Edmonds said the main argument against the plan came from those opposed to the abolition ofthe County Council. Councillor Gordon Morgan, the Labour leader of West Midlands County Council has said: "If you put the district councils in the same room they could not agree tomorrow was Tuesday."

Mr Edmonds said: "This is not the case in the Black Country. In the coming weeks the leaders of the four authorities will be considering a major independent study of how they can work together to promote the economic regeneration of the Black Country."

They also intend to cooperate on a whole series of other issues: highways, derelict land reclamation, telecommunications and social amenities.

In part the Black Country desire to go its own way once again is based on an anti-Birmingham feeling. "Whatever happens if we have joint boards Birmingham will have control of them. That is enough to unite both Labour and Conservative against Birmingham," said Mr Edmonds.

At the eastern end of the conurbation, Coventry City Council echoes the Black Country sentiments.

"We vigorously fought against the establishment of the West Midlands County Council. We advised the then Conservative Government it would not work as well as the system before 1974. But they did not listen", said Councillor Peter Lister, Labour leader of Coventry City Council.

Coventry itself is separated from the rest of the conurbation by a green belt known as the Meriden Gap. Mr Lister believes that all the proposed joint boards will do is make Coventry part of a Greater Birmingham as they would meet in the City and would probably be chaired by Birminghamn representatives.

Ideally, he would like to see a return to strong single tier district councils in both metropolitan and shire areas with a regional tier of government that would run health, water, planning and even higher education.

● The Government's announcement approving the establishment of West Midlands Freeport at Birmingham International Airport adds it to the list of 400 freeports throughout the world. It is estimated that the £2.5m first phase of the scheme will cover about 15 acres, incorporating over 100,000 square feet of factory units.

He points out that the West Midlands Districts Committee is not the united voice that some might portray it as. For example, a document issued last year purporting to show the savings that would result from the abolition of the West Midlands County Council was disowned by three of the Labour district councils.

"We still think the present system is the best solution on offer. The services will need to be continued. The case to save the County Council grows stronger every day."

But while publicly the Labour Party attempts to maintain a united stance, privately Labour district leaders have added their support to the plan to break up the police and fire services.

Leading Labour councillors on the controlling group at County Hall privately admit they will be lucky if they can do more than keep the West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority going on a county-wide basis.

But Councillor Bosworth and Councillor Edmonds have powerful friends in Whitehall and Westminster. Both sit on an ad-hoc Department of Environment Committee, chaired by Lord Bellwin, the Local Government Minister, which meets monthly to discuss the progress of the abolition and rate-capping campaigns.

In the past government ministers have complained that they are unable to aid the West Midlands because there was no united voice speaking on the region's behalf.

But in recent months on such issues as regional aid and the freeport the region has begun to "get its act together", as Mr John Butcher, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Industry, has put it.

The founding of the West Midlands Industrial Development Association, the forum of the West Midlands County Councils and numerous other lobbies will ensure that the case continues to be pressed in Whitehall and Brussels.

The passing of the West Midlands County Council looks set once again to reestablish the municipal sovereignty of the cities and towns of Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull, Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Dudley and Walsall.

Alan Travis
The Birmingham Post Midland Political Correspondent

The changes to a city, from beer to chocolate

Birmingham is fortunate not to have found itself in the same position as its neighbour, Coventry, with the bulk of its workers concentrated in a few major companies. But its large companies provide the bedrock of an economy which generates the legendary thousand trades, many of them practised over the city's western boundary in the Black Country.

The city formed the nucleus for engineering giants like Austin, confectioners such as Cadbury's, and brewers, including Ansells. But the present day city has seen a change which over the past five years has swept away much of the established pattern of industry.

The former BSA factory in Small Heath, for example, was bulldozed years ago when the final remnants of its motorcycle manufacturing closed down. Now, even the gunmaking rump which was the foundation of the business has moved to smaller and cheaper premises. Austin, now part of the state-owned BL Group, is a shadow of its former self, though massive injections of state capital and astute management mean that it is fast recovering.

Cadbury's has had to rationalize the hundreds of chocolate lines it collected over the years by automated production which led to labour cuts, and the results are beginning to show.

But Ansells is a casualty of the poor industrial relations with which the city is unjustifiably branded. The brewery at Aston Cross was closed three years ago after workers objected to rationalization plans and struck. That ended a long brewing tradition and almost a thousand jobs.

Today, the brewery site is being redeveloped for small industry, and some former Ansells workers have set up their own mini-brewery near by.

Birmingham is the centre of Dunlop's tyremaking operations. Fort Dunlop stands prominently for travellers on the elevated M6 motorway. But change is in the air, and the Japanese flag will fly over part of the site when Sumitomo takes charge of some of the activities.

There remains a question mark over a thousand jobs making car tyres which Sumitomo did not want, while Dunlop reviews the future. There are bright spots, however. The huge Austin Rover plant on the city's southern edge at Longbridge was the first in the group to receive one of the long-promised new cars of the BL range.

The Metro, launched in 1980, is consistently in the top five best sellers, justifiably dubbed the group's "survival" car. Since then, the new investment has largely gone to the twin plant at Cowley, near Oxford, but makes many of the group's components.

The Longbridge plant produces the 25-year-old Mini, whose end must surely come soon in spite of continued demand. It is also the home of the Ital saloom car and its derivatives, moved from Cowley. Ital production is almost finished and the line is going to Pakistan.

Longbridge is to get the Honda-designed Triumph Acclaim from Cowley, and production of a revamped version with a Rover badge will start in the autumn.

In a study commissioned by the Labour-controlled West Midlands County Council, the unit identified 100,000 jobs in Birmingham and the West Midlands directly dependent on the company.

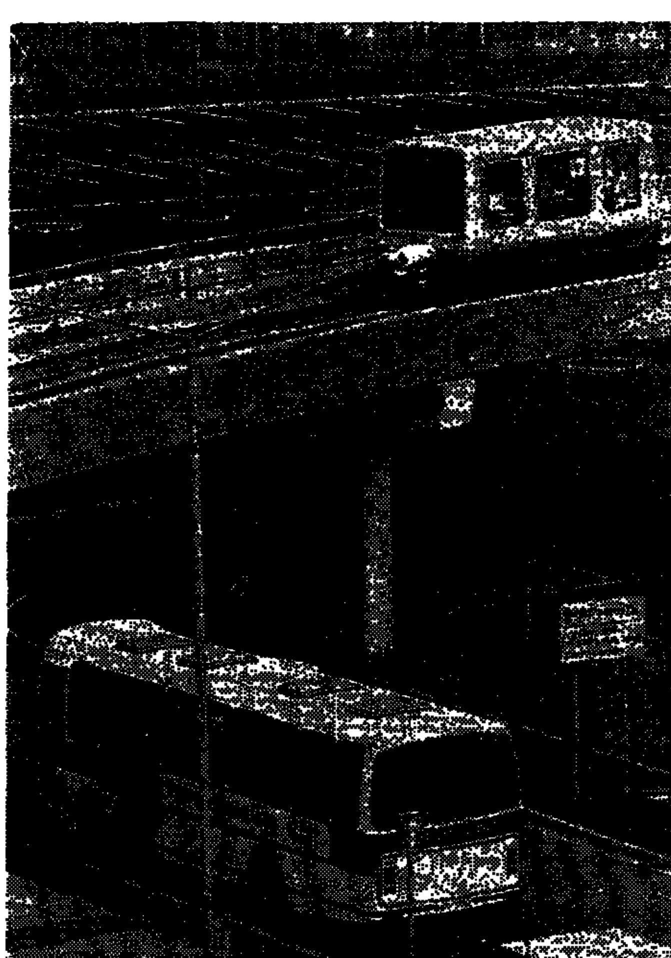
It warned that if more components were imported as Austin Rover has threatened, it would lead directly to job losses. But Austin Rover's sales are recovering and its new model range appears likely to capture at least 20 per cent of the British car market and to sell well overseas.

The problems faced by Lucas Industries, the electrical and aviation group based in inner city Hockley, reflect those of Austin Rover and the motor industry. Job cuts at Lucas's Birmingham factories have been massive, and the group had a £21m loss in 1981.

GKN is even more dependent on the motor industry, and its problems have been greater. Its workforce has been halved in four years, at a cost of £200m. It lost £1.2m in 1980, and although last year's recently declared profit of £88.1m was twice that of 1982, it was only half the level of the best year on a similar turnover. Sir Trevor Holdsworth, the chairman, said trading profits were getting better.

But businesses closed in Birmingham are not going to return. The group is investing, especially overseas, and it is even moving its group offices out of rundown Smethwick to Redditch, the satellite new town where a great deal of the city's industry decamped from squalid inner-city factories.

TI, still better known in its longer form as Tube Investments, is in a similar position. The group has suffered horribly from the rundown of engineering industries, and the vicissitudes of once major markets like Nigeria, where it sold bicycles.



By road and rail: the MAGLEV passenger shuttle service between Birmingham's International railway and airport

The company's main factories are outside the city, but it retains tube manipulation and its main office. A merger is planned of TI's cold drawn steel tube business with British Steel on a site at Oldbury to the west, closing its Rocky Lane plant in the city at a cost of 200 jobs.

IMI did not make a loss in the worst of the recession, but it has cut staff and operations to survive. The company recently announced profits of £31.5m, which showed a strong second half recovery. Sir Robert Clark, the chairman, hailed that as the first corner on the road to recovery. It has sold off a major lossmaker in its rolling mills, merged with McKechnie Metals in Aldridge near by, rid itself of zip-fasteners, streamlined and changed production of shotgun cartridges and has converted a large part of its Witton site into an industrial estate.

IMI's great success is the Cornelius operation, which makes drink dispensing equipment. That operation has doubled trading profits and the growth is led from the US.

Cadbury Schweppes, located at Bournville, is still shedding jobs, with the automation of chocolate manufacture. Chairman Sir Adrian Cadbury has been an advocate of slimming operations by selling off parts to employees and buying back the services.

The company saw profits rise by 19 per cent last year to £107m, with sales only 14 per cent ahead. Four hundred jobs are being lost at Bournville over two years.

Birmingham's newer industries are holding out better hopes for employment. Horizon Travel has been growing fast, with its own airline based at East Midlands Airport.

The company has 400 employees in the city, and although its profits fell last year by £2m to £12.6m, it is forecasting a good future.

Applied Computer Techniques is another high flier. The company began life 20 years ago as a computer bureau, and now has a turnover of £100m a year, which chairman Mr Lindsey Bury confidently expects to double. Its United Kingdom manufacturing base is, however, in the Silicon Glen of Glenrothes in Scotland and not Birmingham, attracted by grant aid much to Mr Bury's regret. The company's prosperity is based on the American Sirius microcomputer which it distributes and is bidding for manufacture, and its own Apricot micro.

ACT epitomizes Birmingham's problem. Like the rest of the West Midlands, the city has been unable to attract sunrise industry with massive grants. The future may well lie with the myriad smaller companies.

Graham Sidwell
Industrial Correspondent, Beacon Radio, Wolverhampton



No failures accepted in the hothouse at Aston Park

Aston Science Park, which nurtures the high technology ideas of budding entrepreneurs through research into commercial marketability, has been open just over a year. Nine tenants occupy about one third of the 50,000 square feet of "incubator" units in phase one of the 27 acre development. Two more are expected next month on the site, which is adjacent to the University of Aston, Britain's largest technological university which contains the largest business school in Europe.

Companies will be made or broken in the testing "hothouse" atmosphere of the park. Although it exists to ease the creation of a new enterprise, those whose ideas do not work will be asked to leave, to be replaced by others anxious, perhaps even desperate, to grasp the extensive facilities and help the park offers.

Birmingham Technology, the science park management company, calls itself a venture capitalist. It was formed through a partnership of Birmingham City Council and Lloyds Bank, which each put up £1m, and the University of Aston itself. A further capital development fund of £2.9m is earmarked for expansion.

Birmingham Technology, through the park, offers fledgling companies a range of business support services not likely to be found outside a well-established and successful enterprise, including plush conference rooms, telex and audio visual aids, secretarial service and press and public relations.

These normally expensive trappings, though, are unlikely to make the difference between success and failure of a new company. More important is that Birmingham Technology offers access to its venture capital fund to help new companies get off the ground. The park offers close and vital links with the university's management school and research facilities and academic staffs. Lack of cash, management experience and R and D can kill a company at birth.

The science park idea is not new. Mr Harry Nicholls, the park's chief executive, said: "It took the industrial science park at Stanford in California about 30 years from its conception as a research institute to have any major successes. We do not want people to judge us now, but to come back in a few years and see what we have done."

Failures are expected. "The failures are likely to come before the successes," Mr Nicholls said. "We have to have the courage to work through that and have faith in what we are doing. The city always saw this as having a 10 to 15 year horizon. If an idea is not working, we will let the people know and somebody else can have a try.

"A science park is the ultimate development in action learning. It only began to dawn on Birmingham industry in the last few years that its prosperity of the last 40 years was not automatic. The city has now got a technology and enterprise gap and if we can create one small spot of success, then perhaps it will have a ripple effect.

"We are trying to break down the barriers between our entrepreneurs and the universities so that businessmen can make good use of university facilities, particularly those for research. Many British graduates think only of working for a large company, not for themselves.

"As they see examples of high technology entrepreneurs down here doing work that is still challenging and makes money, then perhaps we will build that idea into their thought processes."

Ideally, up to 25 small companies would occupy incubator units at the park, though space must be left for individual enterprises to expand. A typical company might spend two or three years in the first phase of the development, housed in a superbly refurbished, 100-year-old former factory warehouse.

Perhaps after that the strengthening company could move into one of the larger, but still flexible, "venture units" which are planned alongside. After a period of around five years the successful company would be expected to move out of the rarefied atmosphere of the park to its own premises.

Harry Nicholls, chief executive of Aston Science Park: 'see what we have done'

Mr Nicholls believes that those who favoured a green field site for the science park rather than a development in Birmingham inner city a mile from the centre were wrong. Aston Science Park is within minutes of the banking, accounting and legal services a new company needs, and is alongside both the management school and university research teams who work with the fledgling enterprises.

More recently the University of Birmingham has formed its own company to market the expertise and ideas of its research teams and to give entrepreneurs and industry the opportunity to work closely with academics. The company will operate the university's new institute of research and development.

Professor John Samuels, Pro vice chancellor and chairman of the institute, said: "It is designed for small and medium sized companies who want to take their research through to the development stage and perhaps to the prototype stage and they will be able to work on campus with academics. We have lots of ideas and industry knows how to develop them."

A number of companies already are associated with the institute, including one formed by members of the university's medical school to manufacture anti-sera.

C.S.

The rise of Tom Davenport

Less than two years ago Tom Davenport was redundant and a building society was pressing him hard for repayments on his mortgage. Today, he runs his own business, designing computer-aided engineering systems in the "incubator" atmosphere of Aston Science Park, employs nine people and expects to have a turnover of £250,000 next year.

Davenport Computer Systems is one of nine small companies using the facilities at the science park. Tom, a physics and engineering graduate, was made redundant by Dunlop, where he worked on computer-aided engineering. He persuaded the company to fork out £12,000 to fund his own work on a computer system for designing tennis rackets, a system he realized had much wider applications.


Tom Davenport: a turnover of £250,000

After working in a back-bedroom of his home, he formed his own company in May last year and moved into the science park where he now employs six full-time staff and three part-time, including an Aston university student who undertakes research. Tom and his staff put together computer systems for all types of manufacturing and also run training sessions.

Although he did not need help from the park's venture capital fund, Tom says that the facilities and advice at the park were invaluable. "To start with, the name of the park really has some clout and it brought people to us who otherwise would not have come. The science park ethos will spread, I am sure."

The other companies resident at the park are PH Marshall, designing and manufacturing high technology quality control inspection systems; Techsonix (UK), developing and marketing a sonic digitizer system; Occupational Services, researching and developing techniques of selection and training to help mobility to new job areas; Aston Technology, which has commenced British assembly operations for a new 68,000 based microcomputer product range; Tradewinner Systems, designing software systems for industry; Micro Modular Technology, the hardware distribution arm of Tradewinner; APL*Plus, marketing computer software, and Condensing Boilers, which is developing a domestic heating system.

C.S.

Moving into the lead as the telecom capital

Birmingham is rapidly developing into Britain's "telecommunications capital" – a point promoted vigorously by those trying to attract new businesses to the city.

The second city is already the best-served telecommunications centre outside London. British Telecom is offering an extensive range of services in the provinces, and good communications with the capital, and the city is to be the hub of the Mercury communications network.

Still a major engineering and manufacturing centre, Birmingham is developing into other business activities stimulated by the National Exhibition Centre and other developments within the city. All the major clearing banks have a strong presence in the city, and Standard Chartered and County Bank is among the merchant banks represented. Overseas banks have been attracted, and the United States banks have also been active.

The financial community has shown itself to be light on its feet, parrying the blows of the recession and restructuring itself for the better days ahead.

John Rice, assistant director of Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, said the banking and financial community had seen the long-term prospects of Birmingham and the rest of the West Midlands as being more than just encouraging.

"The last few years have seen a steady if undramatic growth in the number of foreign banks that have moved into Birmingham", he said.

"Birmingham is undoubtedly now the second major financial centre in the United Kingdom, and we are looking forward confidently to the arrival of even more overseas financial institutions."

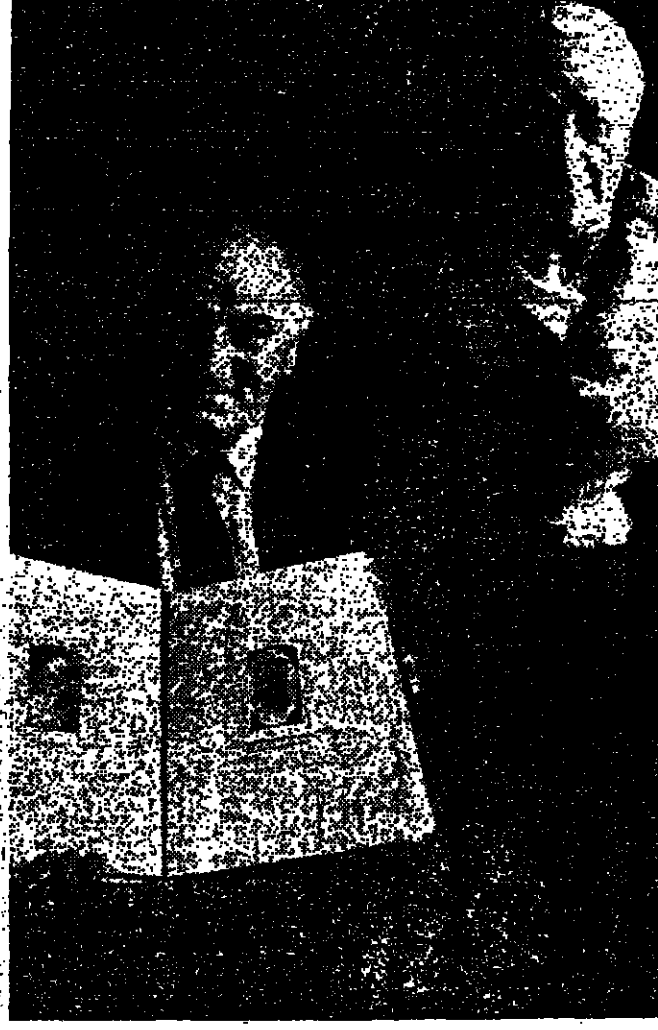
David Drake, newly appointed regional director for Lloyds Bank, said it was trying to play a part in the regeneration of Birimingham. Lloyds has invested in Birmingham Technology, which runs Aston Science Park.

Mr Drake said: "A slight improvement in the economic prospects for the region showed up to us last October, and significantly it has not gone away. We are quietly optimistic about the prospects for the next two or three years, although it will be a while before companies begin investing in fixed assets."

Lloyds Bank started in Birmingham in 1765. "We see ourselves very much as a Birmingham bank", Mr Drake said.

The clearing banks are starting to introduce CHAPS, the electronic same-day settlement system, and Mr Drake said this had been received enthusiastically by multinationals operating in the city. "For all practical purposes, Birmingham is as good as London for business houses dealing in Britain", Mr Drake said.

Overseas banks have seen the potential of Birmingham as an international banking centre, and those in the city include Banque Nationale de Paris, the longest established French bank in the country.



David Drake of Lloyds Bank with a bust of the bank's founder Charles Lloyd: 'Birmingham will be regenerated'

There has been "some to-ing and fro-ing" by foreign based banks, in the words of Mr Roy Clifford, agent for the Bank of England in Birmingham. Citibank and other United States banks have been active, looking for business in the gap between United Kingdom clearing and merchant banks. They also go down well in the down-to-earth Midlands with their blunt marketing techniques.

Mr Roy Mortimer, treasurer of the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, said: "The US banks did a lot of homework about Midland companies, and found the right way to sell themselves."

Merchant banks have also established themselves in Birmingham. Standard Chartered arrived about 12 years ago when it detected the potential from developing export trade.

Manufacturing firms in the Midlands looked to the merchant banks for their expertise in handling financial transactions with firms abroad. They wanted someone nearer than London. Mr Mortimer said: "They did not mind the bank being in London when everything went smoothly, but they wanted someone in their own city to turn to when, as increasingly happens when you start exporting, things begin to go wrong."

The heart of Birmingham's financial life is its Stock Exchange – the only one in the country where visitors can walk around the trading floor. It was founded in 1845 during the railway boom which led to the opening of stock exchanges outside London. The strong entrepreneurial spirit of Birmingham people sent them scrambling for a share in the railway companies.

Revived asset

The railway boom quickly faded, but it left Birmingham with the asset of the Stock Exchange, which was revived by the new bicycle industry in the 1890s. The birth of the motor industry which followed was to play a vital part in the development of all Birmingham's financial institutions.

Birmingham has been an important insurance centre since the middle of the nineteenth century, when Britannic Assurance and Wesleyan and General started up in the city, and have kept their headquarters there ever since.

Britannic is one of Britain's big five insurance groups, and this summer it embarks on its most ambitious promotional campaign since it was founded in 1866. For the next three years it will sponsor the county cricket championship.

Like the Prudential, Britannic started as a home service company, selling policies direct to families and sending a man round once a week to collect the premium. Britannic still sees home service (or "industrial insurance") as the basis of its business, and has an army of 3,000 full-time reps. It still gives a personal service and does not deal through brokers, but has now developed into a full range of insurance services.

The city also has its own building society which, since a merger with a West Country rival two years ago, has been the Birmingham and Bridgwater. Many Birmingham people spend holidays and weekends in the West Country and often retire there, so there are strong links between the two regions.

Mr Michael O'Neill, general manager since the merger, says the advantage of a smaller society is that it can make decisions more quickly than large ones, and its senior staff is more accessible.

All the major building societies have a strong presence in Birmingham, with offices in the suburbs reflecting the trend for families to shop more often near their homes instead of travelling to the centre.

Placed as it is in the centre of England, Birmingham has obvious geographical advantages. Partly for this reason – and also because of major Birmingham firms like Lucas and the Austin Rover Group – it is developing into the most sophisticated telecommunications centre outside London.

Walsall and Brownhills, towns to the north of Birmingham, were the first to have a fibre optic link installed by British Telecom, which two years ago opened the longest such link – between Birmingham and London. The link (strands of high quality glass thinner than a human hair) carry telephone conversations between Birmingham businesses and the capital, with a high quality of sound and no chance of a crossed line.

Flexibility of a different kind will be offered by Mercury, the private communications company granted a licence to compete with BT. Birmingham will be at the centre of Mercury's "figure-of-eight" communications links, stretching down to London and Bristol in the south, and north to Manchester and other centres.

BT expects some firms to put 30 per cent of its telecommunications business with Mercury, but BT expects to remain the dominant force.

Tony Willard

21 missions produce £6.6m in orders

● Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, formed in 1813, is the largest chamber outside London and represents about 4,000 companies. Since 1965 it has organized about 300 outward trade missions to most parts of the world. According to information given in the House of Commons, the chamber's 21 missions in 1982 and in the first half of 1983 reported £6.6m in orders taken and £140m as potential follow-up business.

A conventional pride

The £50m National Exhibition Centre, opened eight years ago, has cost Birmingham people only £1 per head per year, its promoters are fond of saying. Moreover, they say, it makes a profit and pumps about £80m a year into the local economy.

The boast that the NEC has confounded the critics who warned that a major exhibition centre outside London could not work is likely to be heard with increasing frequency in the corridors of Birmingham City Council, which put up the original cash.

That is because the council is pushing ahead with another ambitious plan – an international convention centre for Birmingham costing about £121m. Three quarters of the cost, about £90m, will be met by the city council and the remainder is to come from the private sector.

The Labour group on the Tory-controlled council say they will go ahead with the convention centre "provided the finance is available." As they may take control of the city council in the May elections their view is crucial. But, in a city that has prided itself on its rate-cutting budgets, there is still some worry that a £90m investment by the authority in such a scheme could overstretch resources.

Council leaders also dismiss suggestions that an international convention centre would take business away from the NEC, which was designed specifically for larger exhibitions, trade shows and product launches in its 100,000 square metres of space.

The convention centre will be specifically designed to handle meetings of less than 4,000 or 5,000 and already its promoters have their eyes on study group, small company and international society meetings, many of them held for numbers of less than 1,000.

Mr Philipe Taylor is chief executive of the Birmingham Convention and Visitor Bureau which was set up out of a partnership between and city and private groups catering for business meetings and travel.

He estimates that business tourism is already worth about £160m a year to the local economy, most of it from the NEC, and believes there is plenty of opportunity to bring additional cash into the area through the convention centre.

If all goes according to plan, its construction would start next year and the city is looking for a completion date in 1989. Mr Taylor estimates that up to 80 per cent of British conference business is made up of meetings of less than 500 people and that the centre will be in an ideal position to compete for such gatherings.

Just as the NEC made its enemies in snatching lucrative exhibitions and shows from other centres and still pitches hard for more, the convention centre will compete ruthlessly and certain British cities and towns after the same business are well aware of the threat looming large on the horizon.

Mr. Taylor said: "Birmingham is probably the one local authority in Britain with the biggest capital stake in business tourism."

The city was now aiming to increase its share of meetings of international associations and study groups, such as the International Society of Physiological Societies, which has 1,200 delegates from all over the world, the International Association of Radiological Societies and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The NEC now has land available to expand by 50 per cent to about 150,000 square metres its floor space when the economic climate and incoming business dictate. The NEC attracts about 2.5m visitors a year, but it wants many more.

C.S.

FT STOCK INDICES	
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	83.21 (83.19)
FIXED INTEREST	86.94 (86.92)
INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY	875.0 (889.6)
GOLD MINES	644.0 (653.1)
ORDINARY DIVIDEND YIELD	4.36% (4.29%)
EARNINGS YIELD	9.61% (9.45%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.67 (12.78)
P.E. RATIO (NIL)	11.90 (12.10)

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Prices fall sharply

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 26. Dealings End April 6. § Contango Day, April 9. Settlement Day, April 16

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

FT - ACTUARIES INDICES	
INDUSTRIAL GROUP	518.80 (525.53)
500 SHARE INDEX	565.68 (573.42)
*EARNINGS YIELD	9.59% (9.46%)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.21% (4.16%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.84 (13.02)
ALL SHARE INDEX	521.40 (527.18)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.37% (4.32%)
* estimated	(previous close)

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

[illegible]

MEDIUMS

[illegible]

LONGS

[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

[illegible]

C — E

[illegible]

F — H

[illegible]

I — N

[illegible]

O — S

[illegible]

T — Z

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FINANCIAL TRUSTS

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

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DOLLAR SPOT RATES

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OTHER MARKETS

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EURO-$ DEPOSITS

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GOLD

[illegible]

COMMODITIES

[illegible]

RECENT ISSUES

[illegible]

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

A precedent is set for deferred tax treatment

The case for a cautious view of the banks because of the tax changes affecting their leasing business was reinforced by Standard Chartered's results yesterday. Standard has decided to make full provision for British deferred tax arising from leasing in its accounts after allowing for a 35 per cent corporation tax rate; the result is a £36m *extraordinary charge*. The Standard board clearly believes it will have to pay all the deferred tax piled up in its balance sheet, at some stage in the future, albeit at a lower corporation tax rate. Leasing has not been such an important tax shelter for Standard Chartered as it was for the big clearing banks, but it is hard to see how they can now logically reach a *different* conclusion about deferred tax liabilities. National Westminster, for instance, shares an auditor with Standard Chartered in the form of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell.

If the clearers take the same line it would mean extraordinary provisions in the order of £1 to £1.5 billion, which would have damaging effect on balance *sheet ratios. Rights* issues would surely follow. It is not surprising that Standard & Poor's, the US credit rating agency, has put Barclays, Midland and National Westminster on its Creditwatch list, which indicates there could be a change in their credit ratings.

At least one of the big four is at present veering to the view that the extra provisions might be spread over several years, which would certainly soften the blow. And the stock market is divided between those who think the gloom has been overdone and those who believe the full impact has yet to sink in. The first indication of how the clearers intend to tackle the problem seems unlikely to emerge before their annual meetings.

On the look-out for an ill wind

Pity the mortals charged with overseeing the Government's monetary targets. On the finest of days they must be searching the skies for signs of an impending storm. Though on the face of it the Government's new target bands for broad and narrow money look eminently achievable, those professional pessimists in the Treasury and the Bank of England are already on the lookout for clouds.

On the international side, the United States is the main worry. While it is fashionable to talk of "decoupling" British interest rates from the Americans', there is *a limit* to how far this can go without upsetting sterling and dulling the market's appetite for government stock, the chief instrument for keeping broad money growth within bounds. At the very least, events across the Atlantic threaten to put a floor on rates here at close to present levels. On the domestic side, the chief concern is bank lending to the private sector – and more particularly the personal sector – which has been the key determinant of broad money growth over the past couple of years.

The latest analysis of bank lending by the Bank of England is *tantalizingly* opaque on what is happenig now, because definitional changes have made comparisons with previous figures unreliable.

The encouraging news is that personal lending is not accelerating and may be slowing down. In the three months to mid-February lending for house purchase (not seasonally adjusted) rose £554m (4 per cent) about two-thirds the typical increase last year. Lending for other items rose by £516m (4 per cent), also rather less than last year. Nevertheless, *consumer borrowing* from banks is expected to stay fairly buoyant in the coming months.

The less welcome news, for the monetary guardians, is that there appears to have been a pickup in lending to manufacturing after a year in which industry actually repaid bank debt. (However, of the £930m – 5 per cent – increase, an exceptional £440m was in food, drink and tobacco.)

The Government is hoping that cash-rich companies will pay for the expected investment surge this year and next out of their own coffers or will turn to the capital markets, encouraged by the Budget measures. But the effect of suddenly accelerated investment programmes, as companies rush to take advantage of short-lived capital allowances, could yet be good business for the banks.

Fighting over the US tiger

The Distillers Company (DCL) is in the process of buying a drinks distributor in the United States. Arthur Bell & Sons, its much smaller scotch whisky competitor, has just bought one. Both may be climbing astride a tiger. For DCL, the purchase of Somerset Importers for an expected price of $300m is essentially a defensive move, despite the fact that it is the company's first big corporate takeover in years.

Somerset already distributes and largely relies for its profits on DCL's Johnnie Walker Red and Black Labels. This exclusive contract is up for review in the summer and Somerset is for sale following the takeover of its parent group last summer.

But Arthur Bell's purchase of Wellington Importers for $16.5m is a highly ambitious move. DCL brands collectively dominate the giant if mature US scotch whisky market. Arthur Bell, which dominates the home market, has in the words of its chairman, Mr Raymond Miquel, "a 0.00001 per cent share in the US" and wants much more.

Mr Miguel is as ambitious for growth there as he was in Britain *10* years ago. Half-year figures from his company yesterday show why. Pretax profits are once again up – from £17.6m to £19.1m – and in the second half the group expects to make more than the £13.7m it recorded last time. The interim dividend is being increased by 12 per cent to 1.4p.

But despite the undoubted quality of Arthur Bell management and a constant marketing drive that would exhaust most of its competitors, Arthur Bell's growth both at home and in established export markets is clearly slowing down.

At home the group claims to have held volume sales during the seocnd half of last year. It also claims to have held its market *share at something* over 20 per cent, despite the Johnnie Walker Red Label relaunch.

Exports, on the other hand, fell by 4 per cent.

There is strong reason for both Bell's and *DCL's* plans in the United States, but neither can be awarded points for ...

Any downward movement in the dollar will eat deep into scotch profit margins and could force price increases with a knock-on effect on volumes. The health lobby in the United States is beginning to turn its attentions to hard liquor, and it is uncertain what the long-term effect of any concerted campaign would be.

Far more serious, however, is the possibility that Federal excise tax on spirits will be raised substantially for the first time in more than 30 years. It is election year so its is unlikely to happen until 1985. Some have suggested it will then double as one way of reducing the budget deficit. This would be extremely serious for DCL and would stop in its tracks any marketing drive that Bell launches. Bell believes that the maximum likely rise is 30 per cent. DCL must be hoping it is right.

Time to clarify takeover code

The Takeover Panel, in preparing its new simplified rule book, ahould do at least two things: rationalize regulations governing substantial acquisitions of shares and *simplify* the rules for raising a bidder's stake from 30 per cent to over 50 per cent in a takeover battle. Both are complex and confusing, and now largely redundant.

The rules on substantial share acquisitions were introduced by the Council for the Securities Industry to deal with "dawn raids." Originally, a predator could buy up to 30 per cent of a company in one market swoop. The most famous dawn raid was Mr Harry Oppenheimer's purchase of 30 per cent of Consolidated Gold Fields. Today the limit is 15 per cent initially. All purchases thereafter are also regulated.

Debt-laden Bowater spins off US business with cash call

By Philip Robinson

Bowater Corporation, once Britain's premier newsprint company, yesterday announced it was spinning off its North American print and pulp business into a separate company, to be quoted on Wall Street.

The announcement accompanied a one-for-eight rights issue at 215p to raise £41m, and news that pretax profits fora the year to end December rose by almost a third to £40m.

Dr Ingram Lenton, the managing director who will also succeed *Lord Erroll of Hale* as chairman on completion of the North American demerger, made it clear that the British end of Bowater would become aggressive predators on completion of the deal.

Bowater itself has been tipped as a takeover target for three years. Retained profits *and patchy trading failed to feed* the cash-hungry North American newsprint operation, and as a result divdends were cut and borrowings pushed to a record 80 per cent of shareholders' funds last year.



Lord Erroll: Stepping down as chairman

North America needs to spend $450m (£310m) on capital equipment over the next three years. Demerging the operation from London will give the British arm almost *£100m in assets, trade-mark* sales and dividend agreements with the new North American company.

The demerger, with proceeds from the rights issue, will bring to Bowater in Britain £140m, to reduce debts and pay for expansion.

The Bowater Corporation will be split between Bowater Inc and Bowater Industries. Bowater Inc. will be floated on Wall Street at a price between $18 and $22 a share, giving it a market capitalization of between $525m and $620m.

The capital structure will mean that sale fo 25 per cent of the shares of Bowater Inc. will bring in fresh capital of between $130m and $160m, and the *remainder will be distributed to* existing Bowater Corporation shareholders, probably on the basis of one new Bowater Inc share for every ten already held.

Completion of the demerger will reduce debts of Bowater Industries from £261m to £35m.

Dr Lenton said the Bowater *Corporation had fought its way* through a recession and "I believe we are winning."

Bowater made pretax profits in the year to December of £40m, against £30.2m last time on sales which rose from £1.56 billion to £1.62 billion. However, it has written off £95.2m below the line in anticipated losses of companies which will be closed or sold. As a result, £67.9m has been transferred from reserves to meet a total payout unchanged at 7.75p.

A profits breakdown for the two separate companies shows that Bowater Inc's group trading profits on pulp paper and timber has gone from an annual £47.6m to £60.1m in the five years to the end of 1983, with *almost 70 per cent of sales and* operating profit coming from newsprint.

Trading profits of Bowater Industries, which includes packaging, tissue products, building products, merchanting, paper and pulp have gone from an annual £51.3m to £51.4m over the same period.

In the stock market yesterday the shares rose 22p to 300p at one point before closing at 294p.

Index falls 14.6 points

Shares fell over a wide front yesterday with the *FT 30 share* index suffering its worst reverse for seven months. It lost 14.6 points to 875 points as markets worried about this week's sudden flood of rights issues and the continuing possibility of cash-consuming Government privatization moves.

Sharply improved profits from some of our top companies failed to steady the market and profit takers decided to cash in some of the gains they scored in the recent share upsurge.

Only one *FT* 30 share constituent, Bowater, made progress.

The selling gather pace as the day progressed. At the first count the *FT* Index was off – just 0.2 points at 889.4.

Market report, page 24

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1101.9, down 17.8 High: 1117.3, Low: 1099.9
FT Index: 875.0 down 14.6
FT Gilts: 86.21 up 0.02
Bargains: 28,885
***Datastream USM Leaders* Index:** 114.08 down 0.7
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1151.70 down 1.25
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,528.36 up 44.63
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1131.25 down 25.70
Amsterdam: 167.3 down 0.3
Sydney: AO Index 736.2 up 4.0
***Frankfurt:* Commerzbank Index** 1024.2 down 5.1
Brussels: General Index 146.32 up 2.52
Paris: CAC Index 162.5 down 0.6
Zurich: SKA General 305.40 up 1.40

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4560 up 1.10 cents
Index 80.3 unchanged
DM 3.7550 down 0.01
FrF 11.56 down 0.03
Yen 325.50 up 0.50
Dollar
Index 125.9 down 0.02
DM 2.6042 down 0.0193
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4525
Dollar DM 2.5820

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates $8\frac{1}{2}$
Finance houses base rate $9\frac{1}{2}$
Discount market loans week fixed $8\frac{5}{8}$
3 month interbank $8\frac{15}{16}$-$8\frac{7}{8}$
Eurocurrency rates:
3 month dollar $10\frac{1}{2}$-$10\frac{5}{8}$
3 month DM $5\frac{5}{8}$-$5\frac{1}{2}$
3 month FrF 15-$14\frac{3}{4}$
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.50
Fed funds $9\frac{5}{8}$
Treasury long bond $96\frac{9}{32}$-$96\frac{13}{32}$
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period ... inclusive: 9.37 ... per cent.

AT & T to join world market

From Nick Gilbert, New York

AT&T, the US telecommunications company, yesterday announced its long-awaited entry into the worldwide computer market.

The company is offering six models including desk-top supermicro computer.

It is leading manufacturer of computers in the US, based on its UNIX operating system, but sales have been restricted to the Bell system telephone companies.

But AT&T was divested of its US operating companies from January 1 this year. The company is now free to sell computers worldwide and is set to challenge IBM and Digital Equipment.

According to AT&T's vice-chairman, Mr James Olson, the company will be tackling the *European market*, including the Britain, in conjunction with Olivetti.

AT&T took a large stake in the Italian company three months ago in order to compete in the rapidly-growing market for office automation products.

Mr Olson said: "Our pricing strategy is simple. We aim to match or beat the industry's ...

Initially, AT&T will be selling its computer range to original equipment manufacturers for resale and to a limited number of large end users.

But Mr Olson said: "We plan to move as fast as we can to make our products available to all types of customers."

The AT&T's UNIX-based products are aimed at a part of the information market which is expected to produce a revenue of $7 billion by 1986.

Life insurers attack Budget curb

The life insurance industry last night launched a strong attack on the Budget proposal to remove tax relief on life policy premiums.

In a letter to the Chancellor, the Life Offices Association and the Associated Scottish Life Offices say: "The removal of this relief – over a century old – will discourage an essential form of prudent saving for old age or early death among millions of ordinary people.

"The many small savers who put *aside modest sums* per month towards life premiums are hardly likely to turn to direct investment through the stock market as an alternative and the effect might be to reduce the amount of long-term savings available for investment".

Until March 13, Budget day, *there was 15 per cent income* tax on life premiums of up to £1,500 a year or a sixth of income, whichever was the greater.

Record BAe £82m disappoints the City

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Record profits from British Aerospace and a generally bullish statement from the "chairman", Sir Austin Pearce, still failed to live up to the City's expectations yesterday.

BAe's shares fell by 9p to 225p after the company's full-year results for 1983 showed pretax profits of £82.3m, some way short of market hopes for £90m.

A year ago BAe took the City aback with a £15.3m pretax loss, followig a one-off provision of £100m to cover *potential* future losses on its civil aviation programme. Since then the shares, first sold to the public at 150p in February 1981, as part of the Government's privatization programme, have rallied sharply.

Sir Austin said last year was good averall, with turnover up 12 per cent, exports up 7.5 per cent and the order book up by 16 per cent. There were "a lot of reasons to be optimistic for the future".

Cash flow was positive by a small margin last year and the balance sheet was still liquid, he said. The final dividend is being increased by just under 8 per cent, to 9.1p share.

Trading ... unchanged at £112m after redundancy and reorganization costs of £33.7m, more than double the 1982 figure. The underlying *improvement* in operating profit was about 12 per cent, while written-off *launch costs amounted to* £42.6m (£49.2).

BAe expects to cut its workforce by another 2,000 this year, to 75,500. Sir Austin said he hoped to announce more orders for the short-haul 100-seater model 146 airliner shortly. A government decision on a new trainer aircraft for the RAF, in which BAe is interested, is not however expected until next year.

The £100m civil aviation provision, intended to cover several years, was left unchanged.

BAe denied reports that it would be harmed by Budget changes on capital allowances and stock relief. Taking the abolition of the national insurance surcharge into account, it expects to be better off over the next three years.

The government decision to back the A320 Airbus and BAe's advanced turboprop jet had completed the company's ... said.

Debts drain on Standard Chartered

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Banking Correspondent

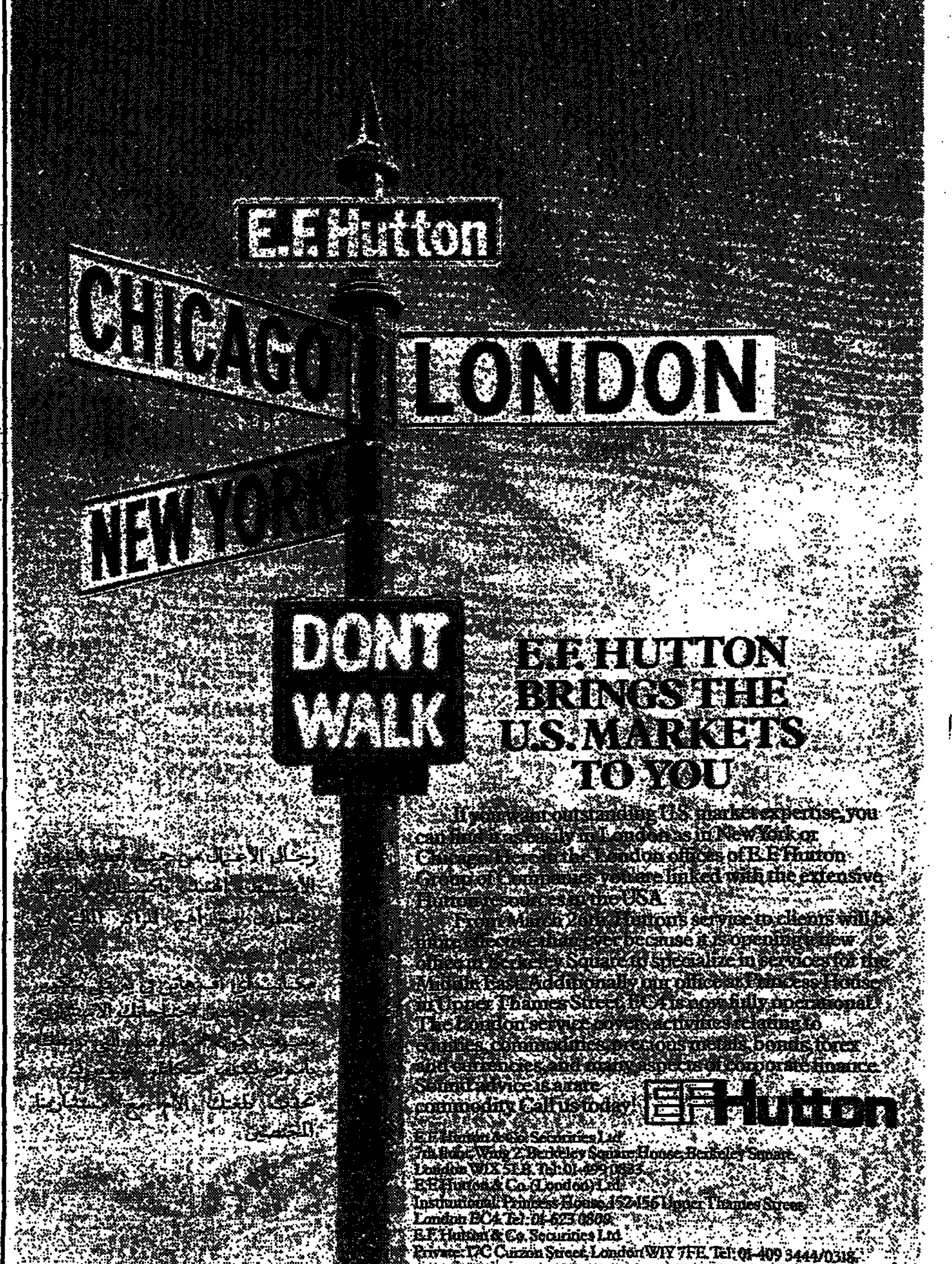
Heavy bad debt provisions in Hongkong and a disappointing performance from commercial banking branches in Britain trimmed profits growth at Standard Chartered Bank last year.

Pretax profits rose from £242m to £268m, less than expected, and there was also some disappointment in the stock market at the size of the dividend. An 18.5p final left the year's dividends 3.7 per cent higher at 28p.

Bad debt provisions were up from £83m to £134m. The specific provision for clearly identified problems was up from £70m to £108m, while general provisions doubled to £26m.

The group is hopeful that bad *debts will fall* this year, and apart from some reservations about South Africa is generally more optimistic.

Hongkong branches slipped from profits of around £30m to break even after setting aside about £20m of bad debt provisions. This largely reflected customers' involvement in the property market and over big textile group.



Profits soar at Delta

● **Delta Group**, the Midlands engineering concern, reported a jump in pretax profits to £32m (£14m) for the year to end December. Earnings per share rose just under 10p to 13p, and a recommended divident of 1.93p brings the year's total payment to 3.75p (3.40).

Tempus, page 24

● **Reckitt & Colman**, the foods, household products and pharmaceuticals group, increased pretax profits to £88.7om for 1983, on turnover of £981m, up from £81.25m in 1982. A dividend of 7.85p makes a total of 12.4 for the year (10.75p). Tempus, page 24

● **Octopus**, Mr Paul Hamlyn's book publishing company floated on the stock market a year ago, reported pretax profits for the year to end December from £4.8m to £6.3m. A dividend of 6p is recommended, making a total for the year of 9p. Tempus, page 24

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $389.10 pm $388.85
close $388.75-$389.25 (£267-£267.50)
New York (latest): $387.45

NEWS IN BRIEF

Order near for Harland

Harland and Wolff, the state-owned Belfast shipbuilder, is confident of winning a £50m order for two of its newly designed, automated container ships from the Lykes Brothers Steamship Company in the United States.

Lykes signed a letter of intent to buy the pair in London yesterday, and took an option for four others.

● **Clyde Petroleum** claims it is close to a deal worth more than £160m with British Gas to buy the *Wytch Farm offshore* oilfield in Dorset, and that what is needed is the Government's political will. Clyde reported profits of £10.09m for 1983. The board is recommending a dividend of 0.9075p.

● **Testing** started yesterday on the third well drilled by Gulf Oil in the Celtic Sea, renewing speculation in Ireland that block 49/9, 20 miles off Wexford, could be viable commercially. The results are expected next month.

Regan urges Fed to sustain growth

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, yesterday urged the Federal Reserve Board to supply sufficient money to the economy to *sustain growth* at the 4.3 per cent rate which is expected by the Administration.

Mr Regan, mirroring the increasing concern of White House officials, said that despite stronger-than-expected growth in the first quarter of 7.2 per cent, the US economy was not overheating and should not be *reined in* by the central bank.

He issued his appeal at a special White House briefing, as the powerful Open Market Committee of the central bank met, only several streets away, to take decisions on US *monetary strategy over the next* several weeks.

White House officials, concerned by the rise in interest rates and the nervous performance of financial markets, feared that the central bank planned to take a decision to check growth in the weeks ahead to avoid a *resurgence of* inflation.

Firms face inflation rule

By Ian Griffiths

All public limited companies will be forced to disclose inflation accounting information in their annual reports if the Accounting Standards Committee approves a draft statement of intent at today's meeting.

The statement of intent proposes a new accounting *standard which will require* companies to disclose information about the impact of inflation on their results in a note to the accounts.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Second cash call dents index

By Derek Pain

Rights issues – real and imagined – and the daunting prospect of more privitization sales put shares in ragged retreat yesterday.

The £41m **Bowater Corporation** cash call, coming a day after Exco's £68m exercise, unsettled the market and any lingering hesitant buying enthusiasm was quickly suffocated as rumours grew that another big cash call would be announced today.

News of a summer share flotation for Jaguar Cars, with the British Telecom sale due in October, was another dampening influence on the market.

Profit-takers, with heady gains to pocket, took their toll, sapping the confidence which hitherto had been so strong.

Although Bowater helped to cause the general decline, shares of the packaging and paper group turne in a firm perforance as the market warmend to its US demerger plands. At one time the shares were up 22p at 306p but they could not entirely escape the more sombre mood and finished at 294p.

Even some splendid comny results and a good set of trade figures failed to inspire shares.

Bowater was the only constituent of the FT-30 share index, which fell 14.6 points to 875 points, to make progress.

Gilts, however, were little changed. The inflation stocks were in demand, with the 2½ per cent index linked 2020 rising half a point to £89⅛.

Bank shares remained subdued by soverign debt worries. Insurances shares managed to claw back some of their earlier falls, inspired by the **Equity and Law** results. The shares were up 23p at 740p.

Airship Industries gained 2p to 60p on the increased involvement of the Australian Bond Corporation after the rights issue flop. With only 38.7 per cent of the rights taken up, Bond, as underwriter, ends up with 30.8 per cent of the capital.

Elsewhere, brewers remained flat with falls throughout the list. The majors, which have recorded heady gains since the Budget, were hit particularly hard with **Allied-Lyons** down 5p at 170p; **Bass** 10p off at 353p and **Grand Metropolitan** 6p lower at 324p.

The bid for Border Breweries (Wrexham) has drawn attention to Wales' other quoted brewery, Buckley's of Llaneli. Despite sober trading prospects the shares have out-performed other regional breweries this month, gaining 8p to yesterday's 56p. Whitbread, which helped Marston, Thompson and Evershed take over Border, has an interest in Buckley's and may attempt another Welsh deal.

Belhaven Brewery, down 1p at 38p, is parting company with Mr Eric Morley, chairman, who will collect £30,000 compensation. In October 1978, Mr Morley resigned as a director of Grand Motropolitan with a £200,000 "golden handshake)). Mr Nazmu Virani, whose family hotel and property company has more then 29 per cent of Belhaven, becomes chairman.

Atlantic Computers gained 25p to 480p with profits nearly doubled at £5.2m. The group is benefiting from a windfall profits increase after the latest interest rate reductions. Since rates were lowered this month, the company says has been inundated with orders from cutomers wanting to take advantage of cheaper finance.

Other computer shares also bucked the slide. **Micro Business Systems** returned from its suspension in spectacular style, hitting 475p against the 390p halt price. **MMT Computers** jumped 48p to 213p. The shares have jumped 68p since Friday. The company declared that it was "unawarw of any circumstances which would justify such a movement".

NMW Computers, however, fell 17p to 248p on profit after the figures.

Exco International remained sensitive on its £68m cash call, falling another 25p to 493p. **Baltic Leasing** suffered on profit-taking after figures, down 26p at 251p, but **Glynwed International** figures next month, gained 7p to 158p and **Laird Group**, also due to report next month, rose 8p to 126p.

The rise in the share price of property-to-building group **C. H. Beazer (Holdings)** to a peak of 364p, up 4p, was explained by yesterday's news that interim pretax profits soared from £2.2m to £4.8m on a turnover up from £27.2m to £60.8m. The interim dividend is raised from 3p to 3.5p. That increase partly

Mr Christopher Selmes, the controversial financier of the 1970s, is rumoured to be the buyer of 2 per cent of Birmid Qualcast, the lawnmower group. Large lines of stock have changed hands recently on talk of a takeover bid. Birmid's shares were trimmed 4p to 104p yesterday as profit tokens moved in.

takes in 1983's takeover of property group, Second City Properties.

Mr Brian Beazer, chairman, forecasts a good full year where pretax profits of at least £10.7m are expected with a 15 per cent increase in the dividend. The second half is usually better than the first and added to that will be the £1m profit contribution from Mansall Newall, taken over in the first half. The group is staying on the takeover trail while also expanding its housebuilding activities, particularly in the inner cities, where Mr Beazer sees renewed demand because of the congestion in surrounding suburbs.

Dealings started yesterday on the USM in **W. and J. Tod**, a spin-off from Beazer. Placed at 143p, the shares of this reinforced plastics group touched 186p but slipped 5p today.

Although **International Carpets** has at last stemmed the tide of heavy losses with a deficit before tax of £630,000 compared to last year's deficit of £5.58m it failed to impress and shares slipped back by 3p to 48.5p.

For the fourth year in a row there was no dividend payment. The management claims to have an aggressive plan for 1984 which it hopes will afford further recovery

Dufay, the paints group, fell 2p to 24p on the 20 per cent profits decline. **Myson**, the air conditioning concern, gained 6p to 68p on its trebled profits; **British Car Auctions** rose 5p to 121p on the back of its 43 per cent profits increase and **Johnson Group**, the dry cleaner, gained 9p to 353p its 12.5 per cent profits advance. **Ricardo Consulting Engineers** retreated 8p to 100p on its 34 per cent profits decline.

Blockhouse and its bankers have changed sides in the battle for control of the company. Yesterday they agreed to recommend a £9.2m cash and shares takeover bid from Mr Swraj Paul's Caparo Industries.

Intervision profit plunges

By Philip Robinson

Intervision Video, which announced a week ago it was raising £1m from shareholders, yesterday disclosed that its traditional film distribtion business had plunged into the red.

For the six months to the end of last December, turnover almost halve from £3.3m and pretax profits fell from £420,000 to £65,000. But this disguised a £38,000 loss on video and cinema film distribution which made a £420,000 profit last time.

What kept the pretax profits in the black was £103,000 from a new video leasing business and £107,000 from one transactions, not detailed in the company's statement, but involving licensing of certain rights.

The shares eased 1p to 27p before recovering to close unchanged at 28p. Intervision, which came to the Unlisted Securities Market a year ago, is not paying an interim dividend. It is extending its financial year by five months to next November 30 and says it will further consider the possibility of any dividend payments then.

Last November, after a delay over the level of tax to be charged in retained profits for the 12 months to the end of last June. Extraordinary charges of £217,000 brought the bottom line figure down from £659,000 to £118,000.

For the first of the present year the tax charge is £26,000 against £209,000 last time. But after recent Budget changes in capital allowance rates, a provision for deferred tax is likely.

The dramatic improvement from putting video libraries into garages, tobacconists and off-licences reported four months ago suddenly tailed off in the last few months of last year.

TEMPUS

Delta blows the froth off official growth cheer

Delta Group, the Midland metal-bashers, added a dash of reality yesterday to some of the frothy Westminster talk about exponential British growth. Delta's four main divisions – electrical gear, plumbing, copper products and resource services – are firmly tied to the British housing and general economic cycle, so comments that demand for electrical and plumbing products is no more than reasonable, with metals just slightly improved, paint the British industrial heartland in grey. A sales gain on the year of 1 per cent to £513m also rams the point home that recovery from Britain's industrial recession will be protracted, if indeed it happens at all. True, the group managed volume gains of as much as 7 per cent, but only in certain areas, and the general picture is patchy.

Full credit, therefore, to Delta for putting its house in order to meet any boom which happens along. The visible impact of the recent restructuring showed through in an actual cut in 1983 operating costs of some £8m, and this looks to provide the base for sustainable profits growth, rather than the boost to pretax profits of some of the one-off elements, like lower redundancy charges; metal stock profits; and a boost to second half profits of £1.3m on termination of a long-term copper contract.

Some of the divisional gains look spectacular. Fluid Controls, the plumbing side, saw profits jump from £1.3m to £10.6m, while the metals division as a whole saw its pretax figure rise from £1.5m to £6.5m, although the metals gain was achieved on lower sales.

But Delta emphasizes that its divisional recovery is coming from a low base, and as if to confirm the point, is increasing the total payout for the year only marginally, from 3.4p to 3.75p. The share price jumped 14p on the figures yesterday to 94p, and already brokers are pinning some raffish profits forecasts, in some cases as high as £42m (1983:£32m), to the group for 1984. Delta's response is to downplay the whole idea of instant growth, and point rather to its peristent capital expenditure programme throughout the last four years which apparently is switching the whole group cost base away from labour intensity. On acquisitions, the tone is equally cautious – only if they fit, and only if they are cheap enough. With its eyes fixed on the longer term, the group looks set to ride out any hiccups in the growth cycle of the next 12 months.

Reckitt & Colman

Reckitt & Colman continues to reap the benefits of improved efficiency, tighter cash control and a more steamlined operation. It has squeezed profit margins up to 9.1 per cent at a time when there is great resistance to price increases, particularly on foods, and has generated enough cash to reduce net borrowings by more than £18m.

A much larger proportion of this reduction is now financed by cash generated from trading operations rather than disposals of businesses or fixed assets, an indication that the company is now better placed to finance its expansion internally.

Once again, Reckitt has chosen to split the net reduction between building up its short term deposits and bank balances and reducing loans and overdrafts. With net interest payments now down to a meagre £2.5m the incentive to reduce bank loans further is diminished substantially.

The policy of internally financed expansion is best illustrated in North America where the food profits are being ploughed back into developing a household product business. The spearhead for this assault is the aptly named Bully lavatory cleaner. It has the awesome task of taking on Proctor & Gamble on its home ground and has so far performed remarkably well. After parallel trial tests Reckitt launched Bully nationally in August but P & G are yet to follow suit.

With a total US lavatory cleaning market of $200m to play for P & G will not rest on their laurels for too long and Reckitt's $17m marketing budget for Bully might need an uplift when the pace hots up.

It has been a shrewd move on Reckitt's part to move into this market so early. Not only is it relatively untapped but it also has a tremendous growth potential. Americans spend only one third of the amount that per captia the Fench spend on lavatory cleaners and half that of the British. The market is growing at the rate of 20 per cent a year.

Success from Bully is critical to Reckitt. If the product establishes itself it will provide a springboard for the launch of a string of household products and allow the company to take a firm foothold in this US market. Failure will not only drain resources from the foods division but also force a a complete rethink of the household products strategy in the US.

The results clearly impressed the stock market which lifted the share price by 15p to a high for the year of 483p.

Octopus Publishing Group

Mr Paul Hamlyn's Octopus Publishing Group has been accused of selling books like soap powder. Mr Hamlyn prefers the description of selling them like newspapers and magazines, aiming at the widest possible distribution.

The formula, if unorthodox in book publishing circles, plainly works. Pretax profits in the year to the end of December rose 31 per cent from £4.8m to £6.3m. The present year has started well, with order levels both at home and overseas noticeably higher than a year ago.

Analysts' hopes that profits will grow by at least a quarter a year for the foreseeable future are clearly not going to be disappointed this year.

The concept of selling full colour hardback books, usually published in conjunction with a well-known household name like *Vogue*, through previously untapped book-selling outlets such as Marks and Spencer and Sainsburys, was exported by Octopus with increasing success last year.

Establishing similar links with comparable retail names in the United States and Australia enabled the groups to take full advantage of a general upturn in the publishing business in the second six months of last year.

The group sold about 21.5 million books last year, well up on the year before.

The ratings put on Octopus shares – which appear to have survived the abortive bid for W N Sharpe relatively unscathed – is predictably exotic. At 625p they yield just 1.4 per cent and stand on a price/earnings ratio of 26 after a 38 per cent tax charge.

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates softened by about 1/16 per cent where changed. The early morning saw the bulk of the day's activity, with buyers picking up sterling certificates of deposit in most periods up to one year.

Sentiment had been helped by a slight improvement across the Atlantic overnight, and by the better performance of the pound.

Interbank overnight money changed hands at about 8⅝ per cent for much of the day, although the close was quite tight with dealings up to 10 per cent in places.

The Bank of England was again quite accomodating in its operations to relieve a shortage of credit that increased from £350m to about £400m.

Government help totalling £388m enabled most of the houses to square their books at between 8 per cent and 8½ per cent, although the unfortunate few were required to pay up to 9 per cent for balances.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

A healthy set of trade figures came too late yesterday to make any difference to sterling's closing trade-weighted index, which ended unchanged at 80.3, but the pound gained more than a cent at the finish to close at 1.4560 (1.4450).

It was also at its best levels of the day against continental currencies.

Dealers said the market was uneasy about the dollar ahead of Thursday's trade figures, which they expect will show a deficit of about $9 billion (£6.25 billion).

Good West German figures pushed the dollar down from an opening level near Dm2.5880, and sent it down to Dm2.5780 at the close.

It lost 8¼ centimes against French francs to Fr7.94 and fell 1.65 centimes on Swiss francs at Sfr2.1405, easing against the yen as well at Y223.15 (224.60).

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8½%
Barclays	8¼%
BCCI	8½%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*8½%
Lloyds Bank	8½%
Midland Bank	8½%
Nat Westminster	8½%
TSB	8½%
Williams & Glyn's	8½%

† Mortgage Base Rate

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 5¾%, £10,000 up to £50,000 6¼%, £50,000 and over 7¼%

WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones) – Shares were advancing broadly in heavy trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was up about 3½ points to stand at 1156.

Advancing issues were nearly 3-to-2 ahead of declining issues.

	Mar 26	Mar 23
AMP Inc	13¾	13⅞
AMR	33	33¼
Allied Chem	51	51½
Allied Stores	40⅞	40⅜
Allis Chalmers	12¼	12¾
Alcoa	40½	41¼
Amax Inc	25⅝	25¾
Amerada Hess	30⅞	30¼
Am Brands	56⅜	56
Am Broadcast	55	54½
Am Can	47	47⅞
Am Cyanamid	46½	46⅝
Am Elec Power	16⅜	16⅜
Am Home	52⅞	52⅝
Am Motors	5⅝	5⅝
Am Nat Res	47⅞	47
Am Standard	28¼	27¼
Am Telephone	15¾	15½
Armco Steel	19¼	19
Asarco	31¼	31½
Ashland Oil	28¼	28⅜
Atlntic Richfield	46¼	46⅝
Avco	24½	24⅞
Avon Products	22⅞	23½
Bankers Tst NY	44⅜	44⅞
Bank of America	20⅜	20¼
Bank of Boston	37½	37⅜
Bank of NY	28⅞	29⅝
Beatrice Foods	32¼	31¼
Bethlehem Steel	26⅜	27⅞
Boeing	36⅞	38¼
Boise Cascade	39¼	39¼
Borden	53	53¼
Borg Warner	20	19⅝
Bristol Myers	45¼	45¼
BP	23	28
Burlington Ind	28¼	28¼
Burlington Nthn	43⅜	43¼
Burroughs	49⅜	48⅝
Campbell Soup	60⅜	60⅝
Canadian Pacific	34¼	34½
Caterpillar	50⅝	49⅝
Celanese	71¼	71⅜
Central Soya	15⅜	15⅜
Chase Manhat	49⅜	49½
Chem Bank NY	47⅞	47⅞
Chrysler	25⅜	27⅞
Citicorp	33⅞	34½
Clark Equip	33⅞	33¼
Coca Cola	54½	54⅜
Colgate	22⅞	22⅜
CBS	69	69¼
Columbia Gas	36⅜	36⅜
Combustion Eng	29⅞	29½
Comwlth Edison	22⅝	22⅝
Cons Edison	23⅝	23⅝
Cons Foods	27⅞	27⅞
Cons Power	10⅝	10⅜
Continental Grp	33⅜	33⅞
Control Data	36	35⅜
Corning Glass	63⅜	62⅝
CPC Intnl	36⅜	36⅜
Crane	33	32⅞
Crocker Int	27⅛	27¼
Crown Zeller	36¼	36
Dart & Kraft	72¼	72½
Deere	33	33¼
Delta Air	35⅛	35½
Detroit Edison	12⅝	12⅝
Disney	63⅜	63⅝
Dow Chemical	29⅞	30⅝
Dresser Ind	21	21
Duke Power	24⅛	23⅛
Du Pont	47⅜	47⅜
Eastern Air	5⅝	5⅞
Eastman Kodak	63⅝	63⅝
Eaton Corp	49⅝	50
Esmark	43⅞	44⅜
Evans P. D.	6⅝	6½
Exxon Corp	38⅝	38⅜
Fed Dept Stores	49⅝	48¼
Firestone	17⅞	17⅞
Fst Chicago	24¼	24

	Mar 26	Mar 23
Fst Intrst Bncp	38⅛	38⅛
Fst Penn Corp	6⅝	6⅝
Ford	36¼	37⅞
GAF Corp	16¼	16¼
GTE Corp	38⅝	38⅜
Gen Dynamics	44⅝	45⅝
Gen Electric	51½	52⅛
Gen Foods	47⅞	48¼
Gen Mills	46⅜	46¼
Gen Motors	63⅜	65
Gen Pub Util NY	7⅛	7¼
Gen Tire	32¼	33
Genesco	6¼	6⅝
Georgia Pacific	23⅞	23¼
Getty Oil	127⅛	127½
Gillette	47⅞	47⅞
Goodrich	32½	32½
Goodyear	26¼	26¼
Gould Inc	28⅜	29
Grace	41⅜	41
Gt Atlic & Pacific	14⅞	14
Greyhound	25	25⅛
Grumman Corp	22⅞	22⅝
Gulf Oil	76	75⅝
Gulf & West	32	30⅝
Heinz H. J.	35⅝	35½
Hercules	33⅜	32⅝
Honeywell	54½	54
IC Inds	44½	44⅜
Ingersoll	49	48⅝
Inland Steel	27⅛	28¼
IBM	112¼	112¼
Int Harvester	8⅞	8⅞
INCO	13⅜	13⅝
Int Paper	57	56⅝
Int Tel Tel	40¼	40⅝
Irving Bank	57¼	57
Jewel Co	44⅜	43⅜
Jim Walter	33⅞	33⅝
Johnson & John	33⅝	33⅝
Kaiser Alumin	19	19
Kerr McGee	30⅝	30¼
Kimberly Clark	90	90⅝
K Mart	30⅞	30¼
Kroger	30¼	30⅝
L T V Corp	17	16⅝
Litton	60⅝	60½
Lockheed	31½	31⅛
Lucky Stores	15⅝	16
Manuf Hanover	35⅜	36½
Manville Cp	10⅝	10⅝
Mapco	26⅞	26⅝
Marine Midland	24	23⅝
Martin Marietta	31⅞	31⅛
McDonnell	50	50¼
Mead	36⅞	37
Merck	91⅜	91⅛
Minnesota Mng	72⅜	73⅝
Mobil Oil	30¼	30¼
Monsanto	91½	91¼
Morgan J. P.	67⅞	68½
Motorola	112⅜	112½
NCR Corp	109	108½
NL Industries	15⅛	15⅜
Nabisco	41⅜	42⅞
Nat Distillers	27½	27½
Nat Med Ent	20¼	20¼
Norfolk South	56¼	56¼
NW Bancorp	32½	31⅜
Occidental Pet	28⅞	28⅛
Ogden	28⅝	28⅝
Olin Corp	27⅛	26⅝
Owens-Illinois	35⅝	35¼
Pacific Gas Elec	13½	13¼
Pan Am	6¼	6⅛
Penney J. C.	50	49⅝
Pennzoil	38¼	38½
Pepsico	36¼	38⅞
Pfizer	34¼	35⅛
Phelps Dodge	25⅞	25
Philip Morris	67	67
Phillips Petrol	38⅛	38⅛
Polaroid	27⅞	28¼

	Mar 26	Mar 23
PPG Ind	30⅛	30¼
Proctor Gamble	46⅝	47⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	28⅝	28⅝
Raytheon	36¼	36
RCA Corp	31	31⅛
Republic Steel	29⅞	29⅝
Reynolds Ind	56¼	55¼
Reynolds Metal	35	35¼
Rockwell Int	29⅜	29⅛
Royal Dutch	51⅜	51¼
Safeways	28⅝	26⅞
St Regis Paper	41½	41¼
SFE Sopac	24¼	24⅛
SCM	37⅞	37½
Schlumberger	52½	51⅜
Scott Paper	30¼	30⅞
Seagram	33¼	33½
Sears Roebuck	32	32⅝
Shell Oil	50	50⅞
Shell Trans	37⅛	37⅛
Signal Co	27⅝	27¼
Singer	24¼	24½
Smithkline Beck	57½	51⅜
Sony	16¼	16¼
Sth Cal Edison	36⅝	36⅝
Sperry Corp	41	41⅛
Std Oil Califnia	34⅞	33⅞
Std Oil Indiana	53	53¼
Std Oil Ohio	44⅞	44½
Sterling Drug	26	26
Stevens J. P.	20⅞	20⅛
Sun Comp	50½	51⅛
Teledyne	155⅝	160¼
Tenneco	38¼	40
Texaco	30	38⅞
Texas East Corp	63⅜	64
Texas Inst	139⅞	139⅝
Texas Utilities	23¼	23¼
Textron	28	27¼
TWA	29⅞	28½
Travelers Corp	34¼	33⅝
TRW Inc	67¼	67
UAL Inc	30⅝	31⅛
Union Carbide	55⅞	54⅝
Union Oil Calif	35	35½
Un Pacific Corp	44⅞	45
Uniroyal	12⅝	13⅛
United Brands	18¼	18¼
US Industries	19	18⅛
US Steel	30⅝	30⅜
Utd Technol	61	60⅝
Wachovia	45⅞	45⅜
Warner Commun	22⅛	22⅛
Warner Lambert	33⅞	33⅛
Wells Fargo	35½	36
Westnghse Elec	46	46⅞
Weyerhauser	32¼	32¼
Whirlpool	41⅛	41⅛
Woolworth	33⅞	33¼
Xerox Corp	41⅜	41⅛
Zenith	27⅝	28

Canadian Prices

Abitibi	25⅞	25¼
Alcan Alumin	43⅜	43½
Algoma Steel	24⅝	25
Bell Telephone	29⅞	29¼
Cominco	50¼	50⅝
Cons Bathurst	26	26
Gulf Oil	18⅞	18⅝
Hawker/Sid Can	18¼	18¼
Imasco	35	35
Imperial Oil	38	38⅛
Int Pipe	27⅛	27⅛
Mass.-Fergsn	4½	4½
Royal Trustco	23½	20½
Seagram	45⅜	42⅞
Steel Co	28⅜	28⅛
Thomson N 'A'	30⅜	30⅜
Walker Hiram	29⅜	29⅞
WCT	14½	14⅝

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

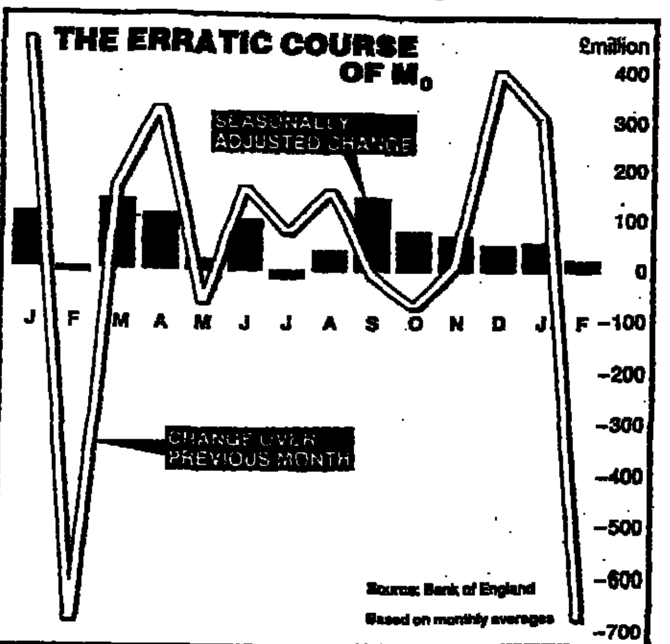
Economic commentary by Tim Congdon

Beware Treasury's false new religion of M_0

A new era has dawned in British monetary policy. Weekly figures for a money aggregate known as M_0 are now being estimated. If the Budget speech is to be believed, the behaviour of M_0 is to have as much importance for policy-makers as the monthly figures for sterling M3.

Since the money supply is almost a secular deity to the Thatcher government, the move towards weekly estimation deserves interpretation and comment. A ritual held every week demonstrates greater attachment to the faith than one held every month. The intention must be to demonstrate to unbelievers the sincerity and devotion of the high priests of M_0.

However, the weekly announcement of M_0 is not a solemn official occasion. The figure will not be published by the Bank of England, except at the more traditional monthly intervals. In fact, there are several places of worship and, as tends to happen with all religion, interdenominational sparring has already broken out between them.



The places of worship are stockbrokers' offices in the City. The conflict arises because complete weekly data are available for most, but not quite all, of M_0 constituents. To be more specific, M_0 consists of notes and coins, both in circulation with the public and held in banks' tills, and banks' operational balances with the Bank. Since the Bank Charter Act of 1844, the Bank of England has been obliged to publish a weekly return of its assets and liabilities. This weekly return gives information on the note issue and bankers' balances, but not on coins. The coin issue is instead the responsibility of the Royal Mint.

Unfortunately, the Royal Mint does not publish any weekly figures. Here lies the source of all the theological disputation. The level of the coin issue between monthly make-up days is not known and has to be assumed.

It is no exaggeration to say that the gap between the various estimates may sometimes amount to 0.02 or even 0.03 per cent of M_0. Although the stockbrokers observing the sacrament of weekly M_0 may not in their heart of hearts believe that the path to monetary virtue is so straight and narrow, their clients will want to see a figure, an outward sign of inner grace, before they put anything in the collecting bowl.

It is a plausible surmise that many stockbrokers – who, to be honest, are more interested in the collecting bowl than inner grace – will start preparing weekly estimates of M_0. The practice, if not the devotion, will soon become general.

If the reader is a heathen and does not believe in money suply targets, he may find the new cult of M_0 at worst rather mysterious and at best extremely funny. The reaction would be both understandable and very unfortunate. Monetary control is an important subject. It has been essential to the containment of inflation in recent years and will remain essential to the eventual restoration of price stability.

The trouble is that M_0 is essential to neither monetary control nor the containment of inflation. The Government's recent commitment to this aggregate is disturbing since it suggests a misunderstanding of the proper relation between ends and means in monetary policy.

Strong emphasis needs to be placed on the intermediate character of money supply targets. Keeping the money supply within a target range does not matter in itself, but only as a means to the attainment of the ultimate objective of price stability. Moreover, as the money supply is not under direct government control, it is not a policy instrument.

The level of interest rates and the budget deficit are the two key instruments under direct governm[illegible] the budg[illegible] year to [illegible] term fin[illegible] leaves in[illegible] variable [illegible] to the a[illegible] their an[illegible] suggests [illegible] bother w[illegible] at all?" [illegible] interest [illegible] ultimate [illegible] stability [illegible] are a ne[illegible] regardles[illegible] sterling [illegible]

There [illegible] retaining [illegible] The first is that the [illegible] ment of [illegible] serves n[illegible] in colle[illegible] excessiv[illegible] creases [illegible] dated.

To h[illegible] must be [illegible] easy to [illegible] objection[illegible] introduc[illegible] fused th[illegible] etary po[illegible] separate [illegible] money [illegible] (M_0) wh[illegible] annual [illegible] and broa[illegible] which is [illegible] rate of 6[illegible] be estim[illegible] sources, [illegible] be anno[illegible] the Bank.

This [illegible] ing. Wi[illegible] employe[illegible] notice? [illegible] favourab[illegible] expectati[illegible]

The s[illegible] having n[illegible] more fu[illegible] iour of [illegible] critical t[illegible] price lev[illegible] istics on [illegible] Governm[illegible] receiving [illegible]on relevant to its infl[illegible]tives.

But t[illegible] aggregates useful fo[illegible]ose are those which a[illegible] events, not those wh[illegible] the present state of [illegible]my. It is here that the [illegible]cy of M_0 is most evident. M_0 is dominated by the note issue. When people have decided how much to spend, they obtain as many notes as they want by deposit withdrawals from the banks

In other words, the quantity of notes is determined by the amount of spending and not the amount of spending by the quantity of notes. The jargon for this is that the note issue is "demand-determined". M_0 may give information about where the economy is now, but it cannot give information about where it will be a year or two years away.

Broad money aggregates, by contrast, are not demand-determined. The economy can add or lose notes transactions with the Bank which have no effect on output, employment and prices. But it cannot add or lose bank deposits, the main element in broad money, in the way.

Central banks have known about the monetary insignificance of the note issue for decades. Indeed, it is an open secret that the Treasury has foisted M_0 on a reluctant Bank, which regards the practice of narrow money with scepticism and of targeting the note issue as rather silly.

If the Treasury and the Chancellor persist with M_0, there could be years of unnecessary controversy. This will greatly entertain the Government's critics who deride the whole business of money supply targets as theological claptrap. Readers who are not heathens and do think monetary control is important should write to their MPs demanding the immediate and summary abolition of the M_0 target.

The author is economics partner at stockbrokers L Messel & Co

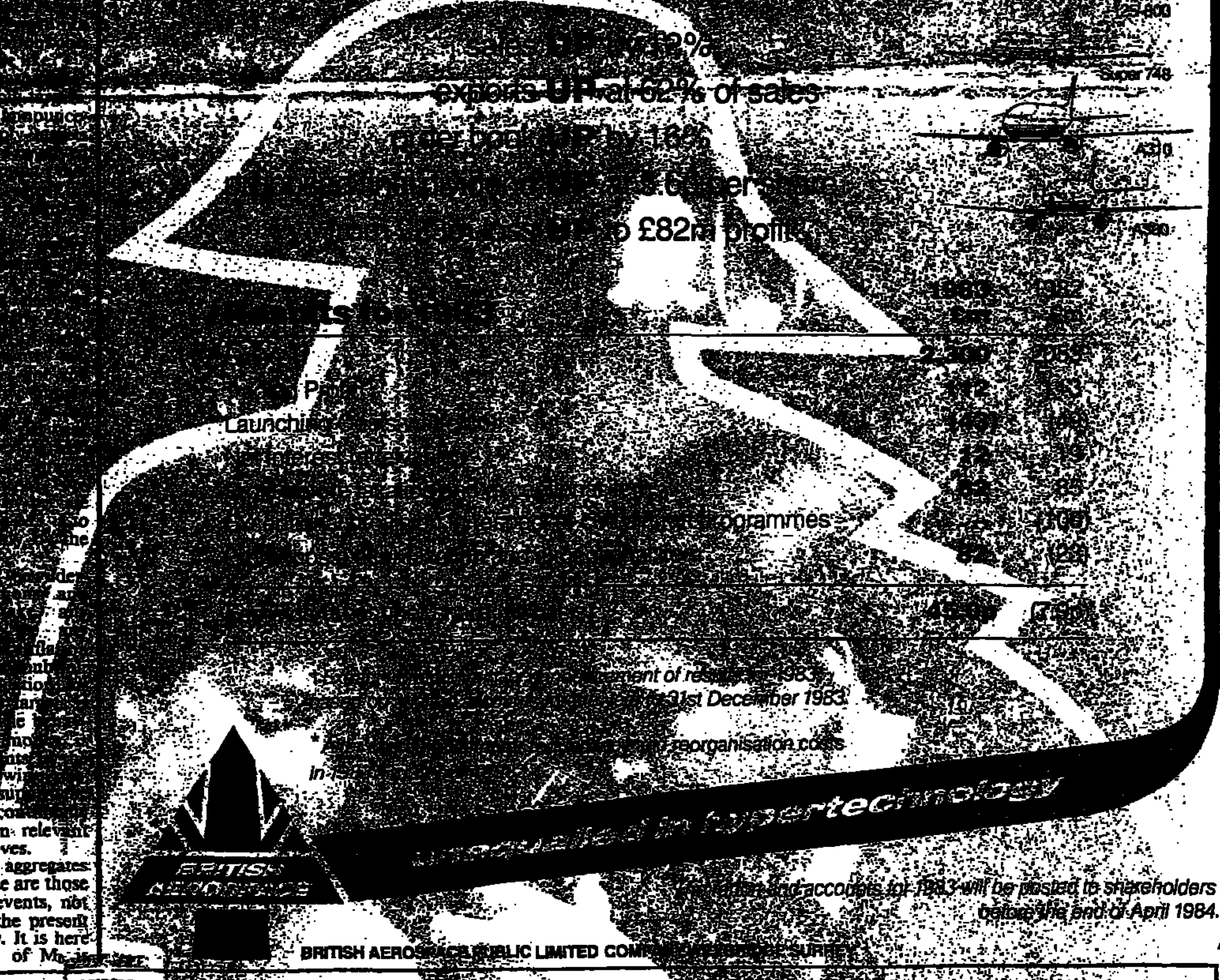
THE COMPOSITION OF M_0

	Amount in £m.	% of total
Notes in circulation	11,401	87.8
Coin in circulation	1,300	10.1
Banks' operational balances at the Bank of England	278	2.1
Total	12,979	100.0

All figures relate to February 15, 1984, and are not seasonally adjusted

Sources: Bank of England, February *Banking Statistics* and February 15 *Bank Return*.





Snow slows BCA profits

By Jonathan Clare

Heavy snow in northern Britain and the northern states of America hit profits at Mr David Wickins' British Car Auctions much harder than expected.

Profits in the first half were up by two-fifths, from £2.2m to more than £3m, and the interim dividend has been increased by 10 per cent tp 1.1p.

But Mr Wickins said: "Although these may look satisfactory, personally I am slightly disappointed. One of the few things that can upset the smooth running of our auctions is snow, and this winter has been a pretty bad one from that point of view."

However, he expects a good second half, as business missed because of poor weather has not necessarily been lost. "Motor vehicles for sale built up and eventually have to be sold."

Turnover of the group, which is to open another auction site in Preston this month, jumped from £253m to £459m, helped by the expanding US business which is now under centralized management.

Attwoods, the former Wolverhampton car dealers where Mr Wickins is also chairman and where BCA has a large stake, increased its half-year profits from £330,000 to £591,000, mainly from sand and gravel extraction interests.

Mr Denis Thatcher, the Prime Minister's husband, is on the board of Attwoods. His son, Mr Mark Thatcher, has just been appointed to a £45,000-a-year job with a Lotus associate in the US. Mr Wickens is chairman of Group Lotus, in which BCA has a large shareholding.

The interim dividend at Attwoods has been maintained at 1p on the doubled share capital after last year's scrip issue.

EF Phillips, acquired last June, has been rationalized to cut overheads and is now contributing to profits. Mr Wickins promises "a substantial improvement" on last year's profits of £1m. Turnover in the first six months was up from £4.3m to £4.9m.

Booker improves by 30%

By Christopher Dunn

Booker McConnell, one of Britain's largest conglomerates, yesterday reported a 30 per cent jump in pretax profits to £22m for the year ended December 31. Earnings per share come out at 12.1p, (up from 9.97p) and the group is increasing the total dividend for the year from 3.75p to 4.3p, an improvement of nearly 15 per cent. The shares were unchanged on news of the annual figures at 113p.

Group sales exceeded £1 billion pounds during 1983 for the first time, and Booker ended the year with a net surplus of funds of £14.7m, compared with net borrowings of £12.1m at the end of 1982.

Booker's largest division, agriculture, produced nearly doubled profits for the year fo £6.4m (£3.4m), while food distribution also managed a healthy gain in profits, from £1.2m to £4.2m. Health products generated £3m (£2.2m), but spirits and liqueurs, and shipping both showed slight downturns in profits.

The picture of group profits was distorted by acquisitions and disposals

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Brent Chemicals ahead

The American recession, particularly in the aerospace industry, remained a drag on profits at Brent Chemicals International last year. But overall group profits were up from £3.4m to £4m despite poor trading in most markets until the last three months.

Gearing has been reduced further from the 20 per cent seen half way, to 8 per cent. The total dividend for the year is 2.8p against 2.5p last time.

● JOHNSON GRP CLEANERS: Fifty-three weeks to December 31, 1983 (52 wks). Second interest (to be confirmed as final) 9.24p making 12.42p (10.8p). Figures in £000. The group turnover 56.989 (50.731). Trading profit 6.748 (5.759) being dry cleaning 5.364 (4.635) and textile rental 1.384 (1.124). Pretax profit 6.303 (5.608). After interest 549 (499). Exceptional dbt 221 (42).

● WESTERN MINING CORP: the corporation has been advised by BP Australia of BP's intention to withdraw from the Stuart Shelf exploration joint venture in South Australia on September 9.

● F & C EUROTRUST: The company expects 1984 will be a satisfactory year for European stock markets so long as the governments continue to pursue sound monetary policies. Continental investors are increasingly turning to equities in preference to bonds.

● EMAP: The East Midland Allied Press has confirmed the acquisition of the entire issued share capital of Choice publications (a private company and its subsidiary, Retirement Choice Magazine Company and the Over Fifty Club, with effect from December 21, 1983. The consideration is £1.071.734.

● LEP GROUP: LEP has agreed to acquire a significant interest in the National Guardian Corporation which is based in Stamford, Connecticut, USA. Completion is expected to take place by the end of the week.

● MYSON GROUP: Results for 1983. A capital reorganization will be put to shareholders in May to enable the payment of dividends to be renewed in due course. Figs in £000. Turnover 51.937 (52,254). Trading profit 4.210 (3.467). Interest 1.173 (2.159). Pretax profit 3.037 (1.308).

● N M W COMPUTERS: Results for 1983: Div 3.5p pay May 25 (making 6p (4p)). Turnover £5.642m (£2.933m). Trading profit £1.353m (£673.215). Interest recible £193.376 (£128.258). Pretax profit £1.546m (801.473).

● WHITTINGTON INTL: Div 0.5p for 1983. On increased cap (0.075p on old cap). Figures in £000. Turnover 2.371 (392). Gross profit 1.305 (376). OP expenses 394 (18). Interest pay 371 (83). Pretax profit 540 (276) Tax 39 (83). Extraord dbt nil (63).

● GRAMPIAN HLDGS: Final 3p making 4.5p (same) for 1983. Figs in £000. Turnover 45.584 (58.071). Trading profit 1.992 (865). Pretax profit 1.453 (425). After central costs 539 (440). Tax 225 (227). Leaving 1228 (198 before minorities 5). Extraord dbt 390 (4913).

● PRESSAC HOLDINGS: Six months to Jan 1, 1984. Interim dividend 0.7p (0.35p). Figures in £000. Turnover 9.621 (5.806). Pretax profit 1.002 (212). Tax 393 (64). Profit attributed 650 (129). Group results are in line with expectation.

● W A TYZACK: Interim dividend 0.5p (nil) for half yer to January 31, 1984. Figures in £000. Sales 2.947 (2.231). Pretax profit 110 (loss 140). Tax nil (nil). Extraordinary debit nil (115). Earnings per share 2.2p (loss of 2.82p).

● RICARDO CONSULTING ENGINEERS: Int 0.875p adj for captn (same). Pay April 13, revenue six months to December 31, 1983. Figs £000 – 5.058 (4.935). Pretax profit 552 (837) incl interest 66 (83). Tax 203. Tax 203 (299).

● CAPE INDUSTRIES: Div 3.9p making 5.6p (5.6p) for 1983. Figs in £000. Turnover 214.054 (219.601) including discontinued businessess 1.326 (12.166). Op profit 8.778 (7.731) being continuing businesses 9.178 (9.212) and discontinued businesses loss 400 (loss 1481).

● EQUITY LAW LIFE ASSCE CO: Div 17.5p making 22.5p (18.5p) for 1983. At the annual meeting of the board will propose that the present 5p share should be subdivided into five 1p shares. If this proposal is accepted, the recommended final div will be 3.5p per new 1p share.

● DUFAY BITUMASTIC: Div 1.6p making 2.6p (2.16p-adj) for 1983. Figs in £000. Sales 15.339 (13.371) Trading profit 1.084 (1.102) Interest 184 (132). Pretax profit 568 (709) Tax 239 (134).

● HEYWOOD WILLIAMS: Directors D Scholes and M R Broadhead have sold 120,000 and 10.000 ordinary shares respectively.

● CANNOCK: Heatons has acquired 620.130 ordinary shares and now holds 620.130 shares (15.27%).

● TOZER KEMSLEY AND MILLBOURN: I Sieff, director, has disposed of 100.000 ordinary shares at 43p.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

FOOTBALL: EVERTON HAVE MORE TO FEAR IN MILK CUP FINAL REPLAY

Liverpool likely to recover their direction at Maine Road

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The winds of fortune have already turned on Merseyside and the vane is swinging in the opposite direction. Since knocking Dalglish and Liverpool temporarily off course at the beginning of the year, they have filled Everton's sails and blown them all the way to the final of one cup competition and to the semi-finals of the other.

Everton were still being pursued by a stiff breeze during the first half of the Milk Cup final at Wembley on Sunday. Their rivals were strangely becalmed and, as they returned to their dressing room at the interval, they walked directly into the fury of their manager, Joe Fagan. He described his words as "industrial language".

His message was effective. Once all blue, the complexion of the game became gradually redder as Liverpool, shaken out of their apathy, bestirred themselves and Everton, without Sheedy for the last 45 minutes, as well as for tonight's replay, also lost their momentum.

"We seemed to have our European Cup quarter-final against Benfica on our minds," Fagan said. "The tie in Portugal was like draughts and we tried to play the same way at Wembley and nearly paid the price. English football is all about pride and passion and we did not show any in the first half."

Rush admitted that "We were dead in the head, our brains were not working and we just didn't seem to settle down." He also conceded that when they did, he failed to convert two relatively simple opportunities. Fagan, who thought that Liverpool were lucky not to be three down by half-time, was merely relieved that it finished as a goalless draw.

Howard Kendall, justifiably disappointed that Everton were not awarded a penalty after Hansen had blatantly handled on the line in the seventh minute, said that he "could not have asked any more" from his players. That is the crucial point. His side can scarcely expect to perform any better in Manchester than did in London.

Sheedy, one leg of their substantial tripod that includes Reid and Heath, has gone and Kendall has no one among his reserves to maintain the balance. Neither Steven, whose display in the local derby three weeks ago was foreshortened by injury, nor Harper, who replaced him and scored Everton's equalizer, nor King are naturally left-footed.

Liverpool, whose passion will be evident from the start at Maine Road, will again be at full strength. Souness, so important to their rhythm, should be more influential. Dalglish, continuing to regain his sharpness, should be more troublesome and Rush, after realigning his sights, should be more accurate.

The holders have already maintained two records. In each of their last three years they have needed to go at least into extra time to claim the trophy and in each of their six ties in this season's competition they have required at least two games to dispose of their victims.

Rush aims to continue another sequence. He has scored in each round so far against Brentford, Fulham, Brimingham City, Sheffield Wednesday and Walsall. The one goal that is hanging on the tip of his toecaps (or, if recent efforts are any guide, his forehead) may be enough since the margin between the two neighbours is as narrow as their last two results would suggest.

Since New Year's Eve, their respective form has been remarkably similar. Everton, with 10 victories and three defeats, have collected the equivalent of 40 league points from 22 fixtures. Liverpool, with 11 victories and three defeats, have picked up exactly the same from 21. Both, curiously enough, have scored 34 goals during that period and conceded 15.

Tonight's teams

LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelaar; P Neal, A Kennedy, M Lawrenson, R Whelan, A Hansen, K Dalglish, S Lee, I Rush, C Johnston, G Souness. Substitute: M Robinson.

EVERTON (from): N Southall; G Stevens, J Bailey, K Ratcliffe, D Mountfield, P Reid, A Irvine, A Heath, K Sharp, K Richardson, A Harper, A King, T Steven.

Referee: A Robinson (Portsmouth).



Mark one: Hateley celebrates a goal against France.

Hateley aims ahead and two feet beyond his father

Rouen

Famous fathers cast long shadows and their sons rarely feel the warmth of great success. Mark Hateley, however, took his first tentative step outside the shadow the moment he first pulled on an England shirt in 1978, when England won the World Youth Cup: Dad had played for just about everyone, but never England.

Hateley mark two was born in November 1961, the son of a travelling footballer, though at that time Tony Hateley was still with his first club, Notts County, where he first gained a reputation as a deadly finisher with his head. Chelsea paid £90,000 for aerial power not seen since the days of Lofthouse. Other clubs, such as Liverpool, continued to pay around the six-figure mark until opposing defenders discovered a way of countering the threat and a deteriorating knee injury brought him down to earth several moves later at Oldham.

Mark Hateley, his hair black and sleek as a gypsy's, has perhaps been toughened and made more adaptable by those early nomadic days, but his schooling inevitably suffered. Consequently, his views on the importance of education do not bear publicizing. He is the type who would have benefitted greatly from Bobby Robson's school of excellence at Lilleshall.

At 6ft 1in and 11st 7lb, he is slightly leaner than his father, but otherwise straight off the old block. Like dad, he also first gained prominence with his head but by his father's own admission "is a better player all round". Mark believes he now has two good feet. He does not, however, have the same yearning for travel, unless it is with England. He spent five years with Coventry City, rather longer than his father did.

Mark wishes that his father was still involved with football. Dad feels that he has had his fill of it, Mark says. "I think he'd make a good coach. He's a commanding figure, aggressive, and he's got a big mouth."

Tony is in his early forties and father and son have a close relationship. "He's one of my best mates," Mark says. At the moment the father works nights at a brewery in Liverpool and consequently sees very little of his famous son down at Portsmouth. In fact, in common with Bobby Robson, he has never watched Mark gain any of his six under-21 caps. That was particularly upsetting a month ago, in the first leg of the European championship quarter-finals, when England beat France 6 – 1 at Hillsborough and Hateley scored four, three with his feet and the best, inevitably, with his head. He has been so prolific of late (nine goals in seven games) that it prompted Dave Sexton to remark at Hillsborough: "He's got six now and it's only Tuesday."

Hateley feels he is a better player at Portsmouth, where Bobby Campbell "encourages natural ability rather than stuffing tactics down your throat". He is full of admiration, though, for Sexton, the under-21 manager, who was also his manager at Coventry until relieved of his duties. "It helped make up my mind about leaving," he said. "He's an absolute gentleman and deserves his success with the under-21s. He's passionate about the game, though he gets a bit frustrated sometimes trying to put his knowledge over."

Today in Rouen, for the second leg of the under-21 tie, Hateley will be performing in front of Robson for the first time. He knows he must follow up impressively his first-leg performance if he aspires to that higher level presided over by Robson. He is confident beyond his years. Married at 18, and with two children to support, he is intent on "doing the best for my family". There are no problems yet, though, about long shadows of a famous father. He has two girls.

Clive White

Bingham's choice is a surprise to no-one

By Stuart Jones

Billy Bingham reached into his shallow pool of possibilities yesterday and pulled out his usual haul of names. There are only 17 and none of those he has selected to prepare for Northern Ireland's final British championship tie against England, at Wembley next Wednesday, will cause the faintest ripple of surprise.

Nine of them played in the corresponding fixture last year. The two absentees are Chris Nicholl, now at the dusk of his career as Grimsby Town's player-coach, and Mullan, who was substituted anyway during the goalless draw. Yet not all of those who remain can be certain of retaining their position.

Stewart is not even sure of his fitness. If he fails to prove it, Bingham may yet invite Penney, a 20-year-old winger, to join the squad. Neal and Kennedy, the Liverpool and England full backs, will remember his heels if not his face. They saw too much of them during their FA Cup defeat by Brighton in January.

The four familiar figures who did not appear against England at Windsor Park but are challenging for places this time are Whiteside, John O'Neill, McCreery and Cochrane. The three less familiar figures who have fallen off Bingham's current list of preferences are Hill of Arsenal and the two Ireland-based players, Cleary and Docherty.

The inclusion of the Rangers pair, Jimmy Nicholl and McClelland means that they will be excluded from Mondays premier league game against Celtic, their victims in last Saturday's Scottish League Cup final. But it is in the English League at the gap in ability between the two nations is most noticeable.

Bingham is able to call on only four prepresentatives from clubs in the top half of the first division and Whiteside alone is closely involved in the championship race. His counterpart, Bobby Robson, has chosen 17, five from Liverpool and Manchester United, as well as Francis from the Italian first division. Jennings, who is not into his second century of appearances for Ireland may find four of his Arsenal colleagues bearing down on him. Although the Irish have beaten England only twice since 1927, they will recall with relish that both of their victories, in 1957 and 1972, took place at Wembley.

SQUAD: P Jennings (Arsenal), J Platt (Ballymena), J Nicholl (Rangers), M Donaghy (Luton), P Ramsey (Leicester), N Worthington (Sheffield Wed), J O'Neill (Leicester), McClelland (Rangers), G McElhinney (Bolton), S McIlroy (Stoke), M O'Neill (Notts Co), McCreery (Newcastle), G Armstrong (Real Mallorca) W Hamilton (Burnley) N Whiteside (Manchester Utd), I Stewart (QPR), T Cochrane (Gillingham).

Villa admit guilt over advertising

Aston Villa were severely reprimanded yesterday at a Football League enquiry in Solihull into a breach of the shirt advertising regulations during the BBCs live televised match against Liverpool on January 20.

The name of their sponsors, the Japanese company MITA, was said to have exceeded the permitted size. The League commission accepted Villa's guilty plea and ordered them to pay the full cost of the hearing.

Robert Hopkins, the Birmingham City midfield player, is to appear before an FA disciplinary hearing next Monday. The first player to collect 41 points from bookings this season, Hopkins, aged 22 reached that total with his twelfth caution in the home match against Luton Town last week.

Hopkins has already been suspended for five games for reaching 21 and 31 points.

UEFA'S threat

Bern (AP) – In a strongly-worded statement issued after a meeting of its committee on referees, the European football federation (UEFA) said it will not hesitate to institute court proceedings against those slanderous elements, whose only intention is to bring UEFA, its members and competitions into disrepute.

Tigers v Blades

The draw for the semi-finals of the Associate Members Cup is:

NORTHERN SECTION: Hull v Sheffield Utd; Tranmere v Burnley.

SOUTHERN SECTION: Bournemouth or Wrexham v Southend or Bristol Rovers; Plymouth or Exeter v Millwall or Swindon.

Matches to be played week beginning April 9.

Derby survival package must be ready by Monday

Derby County have been given another chance to survive after a new Robert Maxwell rescue formula won the approval of the Inland Revenue, who were seeking the club's closure over an unpaid tax bill of £132,000.

The Revenue yesterday afternoon agreed to an adjournment of the winding-up petition in the High Court to next Monday, April 2. But Mr Kevin Garnett, their counsel, and the judge, Mr Justice Mervyn Davies, made it clear that this is the club's last chance.

The new survival attempt is an equation involving the banks, a new director, Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council and two of the club's formner players.

Under the new scheme Robert Maxwell will buy the Baseball Ground for £300,000 from the National Westminster Bank, who have also agreed to waive a further £450,000 owed by the club. Mike McGarry, a former director, who recently quit as chairman of Rotherham United, will rejoin the board and has promised a cash injection of £60,000. Another £250,000 is expected to be raised in bank loans.

In addition £40,000 came from last week's sale of Paul Futcher and Calvin Plummer to Barnsley. With the £24,000 frozen in the bank account the club's coffers are swelled to £374,000, more than enought to satisfy the Revenue and VAT, together owed more than £200,000, and Derby City Council, who are demanding £58,286 in rent and rates.

The Derby directors today meet representatives of two banks to tie up the £250,000 loan, and tomorrow the directors, Mr Maxwell and Derbyshire County Council get together for more financial negotiations. It is hoped that this weeks meetings will produce additional sums to meet the clubs other debts – it is more than £1.4m in the red. Mr Maxwell says he is no longer interested in joining the Derby Board.

Ayresome crisis talks

Middlesbrough's crisis talks continued yesterday in a desperate bid to avoid closure. The second division club need to raise £200,000 immediately to meet the demands of creditors. The position of Malcolm Allison, the manager, remains in the balance. He is unhappy over the prospect of losing players to ease crippling debts.

Glenn Hoddle will visit a specialist on Friday to see if his fortnight's American holiday has cured his nagging Achilles tendon injury. The Spurs manager, Keith Burkinshaw, said yesterday: "Glenn has been enjoying the sunshine. He will see a specialist the day after he returns and we will take it from there."

Stein waits on the bench

From Clive White, Rouen

Bobby Robson, the England manager, will be looking for triumphant individual performances as much as victory when the England under-21 team play the second leg of their European championship quarter-final with France here today. England have a 6-1 lead from the first leg, but Robson wants them to start the match as though it were goalless.

Walsh, who suffered a partial failure, in the senior game in Paris, in the eyes of some, goes back to school, as it were, but without his scoring partner, Stein. His Luton team-mate has a sore throat but will be among the substitutes.

Hodge, who had such a fine game in the first leg, twisted his ankle during the last seconds of training yesterday. If it does not respond to treatment, Mabbutt will step in without any discernible loss to the team. However, Mabbutt has not trained or played, because of flu, since last Wednesday.

Wallace has been preferred again to Chamberlain, which will be a disappointment to those thrilled by this leggy thoroughbred.

ENGLAND: G Bailey (Manchester United), M Sterland (Sheffield Wednesday), N Pickering (Sunderland), D Watson (Norwich City), T Caton (Arsenal), N Callaghan (Watford), P Bracewell (Sunderland), S Hodge (Nottingham Forest) or G Mabbutt (Tottenham Hotspur), D Wallace (Southampton), M Hateley (Portsmouth), P Walsh (Luton Town). Subs: A Williams (Manchester City), B Stein (Luton Town), M Chamberlain (Stoke City), G Stevens (Tottenham Hotspur).

CRICKET: ENGLAND PARTY RETURN

Smith admits the weakness but defends record

The England manager, Alan Smith, arrived home yesterday with his Test side, refusing to concede that the troubled tour to New Zealand and Pakistan was a disaster.

"It was not all gloom" Mr Smith said. "We lost two series and had one or two bad days, but it was not disastrous. We lost in Christchurch to New Zealand because we bowled badly on the first day and found it hard to come back into that series – and we lost only narrowly to Pakistan in the opening Test in Karachi." But Mr Smith admitted that the present England side "could do with being a bit stronger."

Mr Smith said: "We have lost away for the last four tours. Apart from West Indies, everbody, including Australia, India, Pakistan and New Zealand, is winning at home and losing away. It's getting a bit like football, where home advantage is crucial, whereas in past years it did not make all that much difference.

"There were some plus points from the tour, especially in the bowling. Neil Foster went out as a raw young fast bowler and benefitted greatly from the experience, while Nick Cook, after having to bowl long spells in the Tests, is now a better bowler than he was three months ago."

England's acting captain, Gower, admitted that drug-taking allegations had an unsettling effect on the players in Pakistan.

The bearded Gower, who scored two centuries in the Pakistan series, said at Heathrow Airport: "The lads were a bit upset by some of the things which were said about them off the field. But they picked themselves up and battled over the last weeks of the tour."

The Test and County Cricket Board will shortly begin their investigations into the affair, but the secretary, Donald Carr, warned that it may be some time before conclusions are reached.

Mr Carr said: "We will not be regarding it as a disciplinary inquiry, but a fact-finding exercise in the first instance. We will be seeing all interested parties as soon as possible, but it may take some time.

"The manager has to complete his report, and Bob Willis may not be well enough to take part just yet. When all the facts are available, they will be put throuth the usual board machinery, possibly with the executive committee meeting, which is scheduled for April 12. But we must be very careful on our public utterances because legal moves have already been made."



Bob Willis (above) will not be well enough to attend this week's TCCB inquiry into the conduct of England's players in New Zealand. However, it is now likely that Willis's illness is a viral infection and not hepatitis as was first feared.

Dilley out for season

The England and Kent fast bowler Graham Dilley will miss the 1984 season. This was revealed after Dilley underwent an operation on his neck in a London hospital yesterday.

Following specialist advice and X-rays when he returned home a week early from Pakistan, complaining of numbness in his right side and leg, Dilley was advised to have the operation.

Brian Luckhurst, the Kent manager, said yesterday "The news is a tremendous blow both for Dilley and for us. Apparently they had to remove a disc from the base of the neck and do a bone graft from his hip to replace the disc which was removed. It's going to take a long time to mend and we have got to accept now that he will not play this summer."

Leicestershire have signed Ian Carmichael, a 22 year-old left-arm, fast medium bowler who was voted "most outstanding newcomer" in Sheffield Shield cricket this winter, after taking 41 wickets and helping South Australia win the Macdonald Cup. He will spend until July 18 with Essex, on an Esso scholarship.

N Zealand well placed to end the long wait

New Zealand enter the fourth day of the third Test against Sri Lanka in Colombo today with a good chance of winning their first overseas series for 14 years. One up in the three-Test series, the New Zealanders have a 66-run first innings lead and five wickets still standing. It would take a dramatic turn of fortunes to deny them at least a draw.

The touring captain, Geoff Howarth, says that his aim is to crown the recent home series victory over England with a win overseas, a feat they last performed in 1970, when Graham Dowling led his side to a 1-0 success over Pakistan.

The New Zealanders resume after yesterday's rest day on 322 for five. Reid (156) and Coney (26) have already put on 69 for the sixth wicket. With the pitch playing well, the Sri Lankans could spend the best part of another day in the field, if they do not make an early breakthrough.

Australians set Barbados difficult target

Barbados – Set 387 runs to win in 280 minutes plus 20 overs, Barbados were 41 for one at lunch on the final day of their four-day match against the Australians here yesterday. The Australians declared their second innings at 356 for four.

AUSTRALIANS: First innings: 332 for 6 dec (G M Ritchie 99, G M Wood 78; D A Cumberbatch 3 for 74, R O Estwick 3 for 88).

Second innings

G M Wood c Worrell b Small	3
S B Smith c Best b Cumberbatch	86
D M Jones c Hunte b Cumberbatch	47
K J Hughes c and b Estwick	65
D W Hookes not out	103
W B Phillips not out	52
Extras	20
Total (4 wkts dec)	356

G M Ritchie, G R J Matthews, R D Woolley, C G Rackemann and J N Maguire did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–14, 2–90, 3–167, 4–240.

BOWLING: Small 20-2-78-1; Estwick 25-5-108-1; Phillips 11-1-40-0; Cumberbatch 26-4-88-2. Best 5-2-19-0.

BARBADOS: First innings: 302 (A S Gilkes 184, D L Haynes 70; J N Maguire 3 for 83, G R J Matthews 3 for 83, C G Rackemann 3 for 121).

Second innings

D L Haynes c Phillips b Maguire	15
A S Gilkes not out	13
C A Best not out	9
Extras (n-b 3, l-b 1)	4
Total (1 wkt)	41

FALL OF WICKET: 1–16.

HOCKEY

UAU beat the champions to book their semi-final

By Sydney Friskin

Universities Athletic Union (UAU) were the only team certain of a place in the semi-final round of the British Universities Sports Federation tournament by the end of the first day's play at Cambridge yesterday. They won both their matches. Although Cambidge, winners in 1982, seem most likely to qualify, they need ateast a draw with Northern Ireland today to make sure.

Cambridge also finished the day with four points after beating Scotland 2-1 in the afternoon, having earlier defeated Wales 5-1 in Group B. Cambridge looked as if they would overturn Scotland as Hill scored in the first 30 seconds following up a hit by Rush, and Cootes hit a second goal after 11 minutes off Harper's centre.

But the Scots fought back strongly in the second half after Stanfield, their best forward, converted a penalty stroke. This was not the only spot of trouble for Cambridge.

In the morning they went down to Wales when Hoskins scored, but they scored five times in the second half through Makin, three (two penalty strokes), Mitchell, from a short corner, and Hill.

Scotland, short of match practice, were unlucky to lose 2-0 to Northern Ireland, for whom Cook scored twice. Scotland played better hockey in the first half and forced several short corners towards the end, with Adams hitting a post. Northern Ireland lost 2-0 to Wales, Haskins and Palmer scoring.

The UAU beat London 2-1. Last year's champions, Oxford (not Cambridge, as reported yesterday) were next to fall, as goals by Skinner and Allcock (2) gave UAU a 3-0 win.

London were involved in a 2-2 draw with Trinity College Dublin. Canning gave Dublin a 2-0 lead in the first half, but London saved the match through goals by Neil Murray from a short corner and Mark Murray.

RESULTS: Group A: Trinity College, Dublin 0, Oxford 3; London 1, UAU 2; Trinity College, Dublin 2, London 2; Oxford 0, UAU 3. Group B: Cambridge 5, Wales 1; Scotland 0, Northern Ireland 2; Cambridge 2, Scotland 1; Wales 2, Northern Ireland 0.

GOLF

First round is under threat again

From Mitchell Platts
Ponte Vedra, Florida

"Hell for the players, heaven for the fans" is a fitting descritption of the Tournament Players' Club at Sawgrass. Yesterday it was hell for all concerned. A vicious thunderstorm hovered over north-eastern Florida and spoiled the curtain-raising pro-am.

Such was the deluge that more water than grass could be seen along the 6,857 yards which make up what is widely considered to be th toughest course on the PGA tour. It is here, weather permitting, that Hal Sutton will start his defence of the Tournament Players' championship tomorrow. A year ago the first round was postponed for 24 hours because of heavy rain.

The players will notice numerous changes on the course, which was the subject of immense criticism before three greens were completely rebuilt and six others remodelled. Craig Stadler, America's number one money winner in 1982, says: "Originally the greens were unputtable. Now they're a heck of a lot better."

But while the brutal severity of the greens has been eased, the course is harsher. The driving areas at many othe holes have been narrowed and the wasteland, which borders most of the fairways, has had lovegrass and pot bunkers added.

Speaking as one who has conquered the course, Sutton says: "Some people claim it is unfair. But I like it because it's a ball-hitters course. And that is my strength. But the key to winning here is to remain patient. You cannot hope to succeed by being aggressive."

IN BRIEF

RUGBY UNION: The United Nations committee on apartheid has asked the British government, the Rugby Football Union and the Commonwealth Games Council to stop an England XV from touring South Africa in May and June. The RFU's decision will be announced on Friday.

Joseph Garba, the chief delegate of Nigeria and chairman of the committee, commended those in Britain who are trying to stop the tour. "The special committee has the matter under review and will consider further action if the English Rugby Footbnall Union decides to proceed with the tour," he said.

TENNIS: Rain stopped play in the SW Farmer women's tournament at Queen's Club yesterday. Earlier, Sally Reeves, the second seed, beat her younger sister, Jennifer, 6-1, 6-3.

● Stefan Edberg, who defeated fellow Swede and world number four Mats Wilander last Sunday in the final of the Milan Grand Prix tournament, signed a five-year contract with West German sports equipment company Adidas yesterday for an undisclosed amount.

RUGBY UNION

Schools enthusiasm dampened

By Peter Marson

Rosslyn Park's national schools seven-a-side tournament, sponsored by Tandem Computers, made a reluctant start yesterday as 85 schools dodged one another on nine pitches alongside the Kingston bypass during the first five rounds of the open tournament.

The rain came in on cue and it was cold enough to make conditions thoroughly unpleasant. What it is going to be like playing on the Park's pitch tomorrow, when the group winners vie for a place in the quarter-finals is not difficult to predict. Park had to cancel their match with Coventry here last Saturday, yet the pitch was thought to be in good enough condition to allow the England Under-18 side to take on the Park's colts the following day. On the face of it, an astonishing decision with so hectic a programme close at hand.

Yesterday, as a tractor trundled up and down spiking the ground to a depth of 18 inches, the pitch resembled a lake. The heavy going suited some of the better schools who were well equipped in most positions but lacked players of exceptional pace who thrive on firm going. Millfield, the holders, have established themselves as favourites, running up 62 points to six in three matches before Haberdashers' Aske's scratched in the final match in Group M.

Millfield were unbeaten in the 15-a-side game this season.

Round robin

GROUP A: Bishop Wand 4, St Marys and St Joseph 14, Reigate 20, Nunthorpe 8. GROUP B: Plymouth 28, St George's Harpenden 0; Aylesbury 12, Chichester 10. GROUP C: Beverley 18, Whitehaven 12; Rydal 26, Maidstone 0. GROUP D: King's Worcester 14, Chislehurst and Sidcup 0; Nottingham 20, Magnus 0. GROUP E: Hipperholme 15, London Oratory 10; Eltham 16, Verulam 10. GROUP F: Ashville 18, Windsor 8; St Joseph's Academy 22, Tasker Milward 4. GROUP G: St Olave's 18, Solihull 0; St Mary's Liverpool 13, Campion 0. GROUP H: Broxbourne 13, Ellesmere 4; Judd 20, Crofton 0. GROUP I: Birkenhead 24, Cardinal Wiseman 4; Cwmtawe 16, City of London Freeman 6. GROUP J: Sevenoaks 18, Wrekin 0; Bassaleg 22, Hampton 10. GROUP K: John Fisher 24, Archbishop Holgates 0, West Park 24, Cotton College 4. GROUP L: Cowley 20, Austin Friars 4, Wimbledon 12, St T Picton 4. GROUP M: Hymers 38, Haberdasher Aske Hatcham 4; Millfield 22, King's Macclesfield 0. GROUP N: Durham 26, Gunnersbury 0; RGS, Guildford 17, Merchant Taylors 4. GROUP O: Warwick 24, St Benedicts 10; Royal Belfast AC 16, Wirral GS 4, Newcastle Under Lyme 10, William Ellis 10, St William Borlase 4, Tiffin 10. GROUP P: St Edward's Liverpool 16, Portsmouth 6, Llandovery 6, Poynton 0.

Second round

GROUP A: St Mary's and St Joseph 18, Queen Elizabeth Barnet 0 Reigate 10, Bishop Wand 0. GROUP B: Normanton 12, St George's Harpenden 6, Plymouth 20, Chichester 4. GROUP C: Whitehaven 4, St Edmunds 0; Rydal 2, Beverley 12. GROUP D: Ampleforth 18, Kings Worcester 8; Nottingham 24, Chislehurst and Sidcup 8. GROUP E: Truro 24, Hipperholme 0; London Oratory 26, Verulam 6. GROUP F: Belmont Abbey 22, Ashville 0; Tasker Milward 18, St Olave's 10; St Mary's Liverpool 6, Solihull 4. GROUP H: Emanuel 18, Judd 8; Crofton 12, Ellesmere 12. GROUP I: King Edward VI Nuneaton 12, Cardinal Wiseman 8; Birkenhead 16, Cwmtawe 10. GROUP J: De La Salle 18, Sevenoaks 12; Wrekin 12, Hampton 6. GROUP K: John Fisher 8, King Henry VIII Coventry 8; West Park 34, Archbishop Holgates 0. GROUP L: Mound St Marys 24, Austin Friars 6; St Thomas Picton 10, Cowley 4. GROUP M: Stoneyhurst 18, Haberdasher Aske (Hatcham) 0; Millfield 26, Hymers 0. GROUP N: Durham 18, Merchant Taylors 10; RGS Guildford 16, Gunnersbury 8. GROUP O: Strathallan 10, St Benedicts 10; Warwick 12, Wirral GS 10. GROUP P: Latymer Upper 8, Portsmouth 4; St Edwards Liverpool 20, Llandovery 10. GROUP Q: Manchester 18, William Ellis 6; Tiffin 18, Newcastle-under-Lyme 14.

Third round

GROUP 'A': Bishop Wand 22, Queen Elizabeth Barnet 0; Nunthorpe 16, St Mary's and St Joseph 6. GROUP 'B': Plymouth 26, Normanton 4; Aylesbury 16, St George's Harpenden 0. GROUP 'C': Beverley 14, St Edmunds 6; Maidstone 12, Whitehaven 10. GROUP 'D': Ampleforth 28, Chislehurst and Sidcup 0; Kings Worcester 6, Magnus 4. GROUP 'E': London Oratory 16, Truro 0; Hipperholme 14, Eltham 12. GROUP 'F': Belmont Abbey 40, Windsor 0; St Joseph's Academy 20, Ashville 4. GROUP 'G': Duke of York 10, Solihull 8; Campion 16, St Olave's 6. GROUP H: Emanuel 10, Ellesmere 4; Judd 24, Broxbourne 0. GROUP I: Birkenhead 20, King Edward VI Nuneaton 0; City of London Freeman 14, Cardinal Wiseman 8. GROUP J: De La Salle 10, Wrekin 6; Bassaleg 18, Sevenoaks 10. GROUP K: King Henry VIII Coventry 24, Archbishop Holgates 0; John Fisher 14, Cotton College 0. GROUP L: Cowley 20, Mount St Marys 18; Wimbledon 12, Austin Friars 4. GROUP M: Hymers 18, Stoneyhurst 12; Kings Macclesfield 24, Haberdasher Aske (Hatcham) 0. GROUP N: Gunnersbury 18, Hereford CS 18; Durham 24, Merchant Taylors 6. GROUP O: Warwick 14, Strathallan 8; Royal Belfast Academy 20, St Benedicts 8. GROUP P: St Edwards, Liverpool 28, Latymer Upper 0; Portsmouth 18, Poynton 0. GROUP Q: Manchester 12, Newcastle under Lyme 0; Sir William Borlase 20, William Ellis 0.

Fourth round

GROUP A: Reigate 20, Queen Elizabeth 0; Nunthorpe 18, Bishop Wand 0. GROUP B: Normanton 20, Chichester 8; Aylesbury 4 Plymouth 0. GROUP C: Rydal 32, St Edmunds 6; Beverley 14, Maidstone 10. GROUP D: Ampleforth 18, Nottingham 8; Magnus 18, Chis and Sidcup 6. GROUP E: Truro 34, Verulam 6; London Oratory 42, Eltham 6. GROUP F: Belmont Abbey 14, Tasker Millward 0; St Joseph's Academy 28, Windsor 4. GROUP G: St Mary's Liverpool 16, Duke of York 0; Campion 28, Solihull 0. GROUP H: Emanuel 16, Crofton 4; Judd 32, Ellesmere 0. GROUP I: CWMTAWE 22, King Edward VI 0; Birkenhead 16, C of L Freeman 0. GROUP J: De La Salle 34, Hampton 0.

GROUP K: West Park 30, King Henry VIII 0; Cotton College 22, Arch Holgates 0. GROUP L: St Picton 15, Mt St Mary's 12; Cowley 26, Wimbledon 0. GROUP M: Millfield 14, Stoneyhurst 6; Hymers 12, Kings Macclesfield 6. GROUP N: RGS Guildford 8, Hereford 8; Merchant Taylors 9; Gunnersbury 6. GROUP O: Wirral 28, Strathallan 12; Royal Belfast 6, Warwick 4. GROUP P: Llandovery 16, Latymer Upper 8; St Edward's Liverpool 14, Poynton 0. GROUP Q: Tiffin 10, Manchester 10; Sir W Borlase 12, Newcastle Under Lyme 0.

Fifth round

GROUP 'A': Nunthorpe 36, Qn Elizabeth Barnet 0; St Mary's and St Joseph 32, Reigate 8, group winners: Nunthorpe. GROUP 'B': Aylesbury 8, Normanton 4; St George's 20, Chichester 16, Group winners: Aylesbury. GROUP 'C': Maidstone 10, St Edmunds 6; Rydal 22, Whitehaven 12, Group winners: Rydal. GROUP 'K': King Henry VIII 24, Cotton College 0; West Park 18, John Fisher 0, group winner: West Park. GROUP 'L': Wimbledon 4, Mt St Mary's 0; Austin Friars 6, St T Picton 6, group winners: Cowley. GROUP 'M': King Macclesfield 24, Stoneyhurst 0; Millfield W.O. Hab aske Hatcham SCY; group winner: Millfield. GROUP 'N': Hereford CS 16, Merchant Taylors 8; RGS Guildford 26, Durham 6, group winners RGS Guildford. GROUP O: Royal Belfast 19, Strathallan 6; Wirral 8, St Benedicts 3. Group winners: Royal Belfast. GROUP P: Poynton 16, Latymer Upper 0; Portsmouth 30, Llandovery 0. Group winner: St Edward's Liverpool. GROUP Q: Manchester 4, Sir W Borlase 0; Wm Ellis 8, Tiffin 4. Group winner: Manchester.

BOXING

Chance to take a look at Jones

Seven months on from the memorable effort in Las Vegas which almost won him the world welterweight title, Colin Jones makes his comeback in homely Aberavon tonight. Jones boxes for a fraction of the money he earned in America but it is necessary to show the boxing world that he is still alive and capable, for another world title fight may be waiting around the corner.

So he meets Allen Brashwell, of New York, in a 10-rounder designed to ease him back on to the scene. It is a modest looking event, but there is no denying its importance. If Jones fails to win impressively a lot of well laid, and well paid, plans will fall to pieces.

Following the second McCrory bout, Jones was not even certain he would box again. After twice failing to win the world title he was tired and disappointed. But his manager, Eddie Thomas, reports that Jones seems to have got all his old zest back.

This could be a rich final year for Jones, so the Welsh should take the opportunity of having a close look at their hero for it may be the last chance they will get. Thomas says that he has had offers from Bermuda, San Francisco, New York and Montreal.

● Larry Holmes, will defend his International Boxing Federation title against the World Boxing Association champion, Gerrie Coetzee, of South Africa at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas on June 8.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Ipswich 2, Watford 1; Queen's Park Rangers 1, Norwich 0; West Ham 1, Leicester 2.

TOUR MATCH: Lensbury 0, New England Universities (US) 2.

ALBANIAN LEAGUE: Skenderbeu 0, Labinoti 0; Dinamo 3, Naftetari 3; 31 Korriku 1, Flamurtari 1; Vllaznia 2, Traktori 0; Tomori 1, Lufterari 0; Besa 1, Partizani 1.

TOUR MATCH: Iain Swalwell's XI (Oxford and Cambridge former Blues) 2, New England Universities (US) 0, at Midland Bank FC, New Beckenham.

TENNIS

BOCA RATON (AP) – Paine Webber Classic: First round: S Davis (US) bt J-L Clerc (Arg) 6-1, 6-3; Tom Gullikson (US) bt R Krishnan (India) 6-2, 3-6, 6-3; N Odizor (Nig) bt B Taroczy (Hung) 7-6, 7-5; E Melster (US) bt E Iskersky (US) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4; S Glammalva (US) bt J V Nostrand (US) 6-1, 6-3.

BOSTON (AFP) – Women's Grand Prix tournament: First round: P Paradis (Fr) bt W White (US) 6-2, 6-3; A Leand (US) bt M-C Calleja (Fr) 6-7, 7-6, 6-4; J Russell (US) bt V Wade (GB) 3-6, 6-3, 7-5; K Rinaldi (US) bt Y Vermaak (SA) 7-5, 6-1; M L Piatek (US) bt C Benjamin (US) 6-0, 6-2.

QUEEN'S CLUB: S W Farmer women's tournament: third round: K Brasher (Surrey) bt W Compton (Kent) 6-8, 6-1; D Parnell (Cheshire) bt F Coulbridge (Dorset) 6-1, 6-2; L Geeves (Middx) bt A Jones 6-4, 6-1; J Rich (Norfolk) bt A Brasher (Surrey) 6-1, 6-1; J Langstaff (Surrey) bt S Gough (Lancs) 6-3, 6-1; N Lusty (Middx) bt J Phillips (Notts) 6-1, 6-2; S Reeves (Kent) bt J Reeves (Kent) 6-1, 6-3.

ICE HOCKEY

GRENOBLE, (AFP) – Friendship tournament: Switzerland 7, Japan 3, (1-2, 2-0, 4-1); E Germany 11, Romania 4 (3-1, 3-3, 5-0); Netherlands 7, France 4 (5-3, 0-1, 2-0); China 7, Hungary 3 (2-0, 2-1, 3-2).

NEW YORK – National League: Minnesota North Stars 4, St Louis Blues 2.

VARESE, Italy – Junior world championship: Group B: Spain 7, Great Britain 3. Groupe C: Bulgaria 5, Italy B 0; Hungary 6, Belgium 2.

CYCLING

TOULOUSE, (AFP) – Mid-Pyrenees Tour: 3.86km Time Trial: Prologue: 1, J Gorospe (Sp) 4min 38.4sec (59.761km/h); 2, C Mottet (Fr) 4:37.52; 3, D Leclercq (Fr) 4:38.27; 4, K Andersen (Den) 4:38.34; 5, F Brun (Fr) 4:39.32.

LACROSSE

REGIONAL TROPHY: Cheshire 25, Durham Counties 0.

ROSES TROPHY: Lancashire 19, Yorkshire 12.

RUGBY UNION

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CUP: Final: Bletchley 3, Pennanians 3. (To be replayed).

KENT CUP: Final: Blackheath 16, Sidcup 14.

MIDDLESEX CUP: Final: Ealing 18, Hendon 6.

SURREY COLTS CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: O Mid-Whitgiftians 7, Sutton & Epsom 0.

OTHER MATCHES: O Verulamians 18, Harrow 7; Orleans FP 7, Dorking 0.

BRITISH POLYTECHNICS SEVENS (Centaur RFC, Osterley): Semi-finals: North Staffs 18, Kingston 6; Brighton (Eastbourne) 16, Oxford 6. Final: N Staffs 34, Brighton 12.

ROWING

OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: Women's: Cambridge bt Oxford by 16secs, in 5mins 18secs; Osiris (Oxford II) bt Blondie (Cambridge II) by 11sec, mt. Lightweights: Women: Cambridge bt Oxford by 4sec, in 5mins 47sec; Men: Cambridge bt Oxford by 4sec, in 6min 0.2sec.

CURLING

PERTH: Women's world championships: third round: draw two: Germany 6, US 5; Italy 4, Denmark 9; Scotland 7, Switzerland 6; Norway 3, France 5; Sweden 6, Canada 11. draw three: Canada 8, Denmark 2; France 8, Switzerland 4; Sweden 7, Germany 6; Italy 1, Scotland 7; Norway 6, US 5. standings: Canada, Scotland, three wins; France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, two wins; Denmark, one win; Italy, Switzerland, US, nil.

HOCKEY

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: RAF 1, Lincolnshire 1; RAF U-21 0, Lincolnshire U-21 1.

LONDON LEAGUE: Premier Division: Tulse Hill 3, Guildford 2.

BERKSHIRE CUP: Final: Reading 2, Maidenhead 1.

BUCKS. COUNTY DAY (Slough HC): Bucks Cup-Final: Slough 6, Richings Park 0. Other matches: Bucks U-19 3, Bucks U-21 1; Slough President's XI 3, Bucks President's XI 2.

MIDDLESEX CUP: Final: Southgate 4, Hounslow 0.

SURREY CUP: Semi-final: Wimbledon 0, Richmond 1.

SEVEN-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT: Martin Essex: Final (Chelmsford): Westcliff 0, Fords 0 aet. (Westcliff won 4-3 on pens.)

SUFFOLK (Ipswich): Ipswich I 1, Ipswich II 0; Ipswich I 3, Ipswich YMCA 0; Ipswich II 0, YMCA 0.

OTHER MATCHES: US Portsmouth 1, Wayfarers 2; Chalfont St Peter 1, President's XI 2.

WOMEN'S: South Indoor Clubs' Championship – Finals (Montem SC, Slough): Winner: Ealing. Runner-up: Slough. SCHOOLS: Sir Roger Manwood's 0, Old Manwoodians 2.

SNOOKER

IRISH MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP: FIRST ROUND: T Griffiths (Llanelli) bt B Werbeniuk (Can) 5-2.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	130	260	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	+7
Perfect powder North slopes							
Arosa	140	190	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	0
Excellent snow conditions							
Grindelwald	30	120	Good	Powder	Fair	Fair	0
New snow on good base							
Isola 2000	140	160	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	+4
New snow on good base							
La Plagne	155	370	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	+10
Powder everywhere in morning							
Leysin	80	195	Good	Powder	Fair	Fine	+6
5in powder snow overnight							
St Anton	50	400	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	+10
Powder on North-facing slopes							
Tignes	175	350	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	+8
New snow, vastly improved skiing							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes.

RACING: 81 LEFT IN NATIONAL

Owner ends the silence but keeps Eliogarty backers in dark

By Michael Seely

Mystery still surrounded the riding arrangements for Eliogarty at the four-day stage of declarations for the Seagram sponsored Grand National yesterday. The impressive winner of last year's Christie's Foxhunters Challenge Cup at Cheltenham has been backed to win an estimated £5m. However, John Hassett, the nine-year-old's trainer, still refuses to discuss his plans.

Yesterday the first light was shed on the situation by Caroline Beasley, who rode Eliogarty to victory at the National Hunt Festival in 1983 and who also won on this superb jumper on his seasonal reappearance at Wexford earlier this month. "I still own Eliogarty outright", Miss Beasley said. "I will not be riding myself, but we are making no decisions until Thursday. There are still one or two matters to be finalised." 10-1 is now the general price on offer against Eliogarty.

John O'Neill was offered the mount at Cheltenham. The former champion has, however, heard no more since then. Hassett has stated that he considers John Francome to be the best jockey in the world, but the reigning champion is remaining loyal to Grittar the 1982 winner.

"I don't know why Grittar ran moderately at Market Rasen", Frank Gilman, Grittar's owner-trainer, said. "Horses can't talk, so he can't tell me. But he's in good shape and an intended runner. Francome will still be his jockey."

Eighty one hopefuls were declared, so a maximum of 41 face possible elimination at the overnight stage before the size of the field can be reduced to the safety limit. Mullacurry, Animahron and Barrysville were the only withdrawals of note.

Greasepaint remains favourite at 8-1 with William Hills and Ladbrokes as Dermot Weld attempts to become the first Irish trainer to land the Spring Double. Tommy Carmody will be out to win his first National on last year's runner-up to Corbiere. "Greasepaint's right on song", Weld said. "You always need luck at Aintree, but he's going to take all the beating".

Hills also had backing for last year's winner Corbiere, Lucky Vane, Grittar and Tacroy. Ladbrokes reported support for Ashley House, whose odds were reduced from 33-1 to 20-1.

Aintree fever begins to mount with only four more days to go to the world's greatest steeplechase. "We have had some squallish hours", Nigel Payne, Aintree's marketing manager, said yesterday. "John Hughes, the clerk of the course, says that the going may be just on the soft side of good, and it may become more yielding, if the present forecast is correct".

Mr Payne expects a crowd of around 48,000. "It could be more if we get plenty of sun beforehand. People mustn't be put off by the announcement that all the roofed accommodation has been sold. Safety restrictions only allow 4,000 on the various roofs and there will be plenty of room in the paddock and stands area where everyone will be able to watch the race on the giant 20ft by 24ft television screen."

GRAND NATIONAL ACCEPTORS: Corbiere, Ashley House, Grittar, Eliogarty, Spartan Missile, Midnight Love, Greasepaint, Earthstopper, Jivago De Neuvy, Lucky Vane, Fauloon, Fethard Friend, Broomy Bank, Silent Valley, Hazy Dawn, Burnt Oak, Fortina's Express, Tacroy, Imperial Black, Bush Guide, Poyntz Pass, Doubleuagh, The Drunken Duck, Mid Day Gun, Door Step, Yer Man, Pilot Officer, Hallo Dandy, Another Captain, Carl's Wager, Hill Of Shane, Jacko, Two Swallows, Beech King, Three To One, Roman General, Fortune Seeker, Golden Trix, Canford Ginger, Royal Appointment, Clonthturtin, Kumbi, Knockawad, Ram The Thor, Menford, Our Cloud, Greenways, Brass O Tully, Never Tamper, Brave Jack, Hot Tomato, Blazing Wind, Lucky Call, Antic, Cold Spell, Money For Jam, Romany Count, 400 Nocte, Jocks Bond, O'er The Border, My Buck, Mr Oryx, Bridge Ash, Regent's Garden, Ballygore, Applejo, Williamson, Milan Major, Flash Harry, Durham Lad, Bobtree, Dawn Fox, Wells Fargo, Abzala, Oakprime, French Bob, Button Boy, Who's Free, Tilthammer Mill, Greenhill Hall, Yalu. To be run at Liverpool, Saturday.

Pagan Sun to outshine elders

By Mandarin

PAGAN SUN is napped to defy a 5lb penalty for his runaway victory at Doncaster by winning the Springtime Apprentice Handicap at Catterick Bridge this afternoon. Alan Bailey followed up his Saturday double by saddling Wing And A Prayer to finish a creditable second to Vital Boy at Folkestone. Pagan Sun can now give further evidence of the well-being of the Newmarket trainer's team.

Backing three-year-olds against older horses in March is not normally regarded as a road to riches. However, not only did Pagan Sun sprint home 10 lengths clear of Foot Patrol, he also recorded a fast time figure considering that he won without being extended. The front running O.I. Oyston will no doubt attempt to run his rivals ragged around Catterick's sharp left-hand bends, but Pagan Sun should prove too strong in the closing stages of this seven-furlong dash.

Provided and Dromodan are other Doncaster winners who will also be attempting to strike while the iron is hot. Following his easy victory in the opening race of the season on the Town Moor, PROVIDEO is sure to start at odds on in the Toytop Stakes. But Bill O'Gorman's two-year-old looked razor sharp and cannot be opposed.

Ridden by Tim Easterby, DROMODAN landed a long-priced gamble for his astute stable when beating Shutler's Fling and Stan's Pride in an amateur rider's event. The style of that victory makes the four-year-old look the pick of the weights in the Yarm Handicap. Sir Lucky and Goosey Gander are fit from hurdling and can be given each way chances.

Barry Hills and Steve Cauthen were on the mark with Spanish Place at Doncaster, and now this formidable partnership launch another northern raid with Quisissano and Kolomelskoy Palace, both of whom run in the Whorlton Maiden Stakes. Steve Cauthen will not decide on his choice of mount until shortly before the race. The one discarded by the American will be partnered by Richare Hills.

The best bet at Huntingdon's jumping fixture should be WOOLLOOWARE in the second division of the Sandy Novices' Hurdle. At Kempton Park in February Toby Balding's four-year-old beat To-Onero-Mon by half a length in a handicap and though subsequently disqualified for interfering with the runner up should be difficult to overcome in the this two and a half mile maiden race.



Straight from the horse's mouth: Creag-An-Sgor sweet-talks Charlie Nelson (Photograph: Chris Cole).

Two that went for a song should be names to remember for the classics

Nelson has an eye for a bargain

While oil shaikhs and multi-millon pound syndicates monopolize the choicest-bred thoroughbreds on the international sales circuit, Charlie Nelson, the Upper Lambourn trainer, has offered encouragement to ordinary racing folk by recruiting two classic contenders straight from the bargain basement.

Mahognany, the ante-post 1,000 Guineas favourite, and Greag-An-Sgor, a leading contender for the 2,000 Guineas after his 50-1 all-the-way success in the Middle Park Stakes, both cost Nelson 20,000 Irish punts (about £16,000) as yearlings at Goffs Sales, Co Kildare, two years ago.

Firmly convinced of their potential, the 29-year-old trainer persuaded two old family friends, Bill Tulloch, an electronic games manufacturer, and his wife, Georgina, to take a majority share in the two horses, with Nelson retaining a share in each, and another friend, Marcel Klein, a local hotel proprietor, taking an additional quarter in Mahogany.

Speculation

The pair, who race in Mrs Tulloch's cerise, white and black colours made famous by her 1979 Triumph Hurlde winner, Pollardstown, made a tremendous impact during their two-year-old campaigns with Mahogany (8st 8lb in the Free Handicap) winning her only two starts – at Newbury and Newmarket – and Creag-An-Sgor, (named after the highest point in Mr Tulloch's grouse shooting estate, 40 miles west of Aberdeen) earning a 9st rating in the Free Handicap with his York and Newmarket victories.

There had been speculation that the pair would change hands this winter, but at his Kingsdown stables recently Nelson insisted that although plenty of people have asked if they were for sale no serious offers have been forthcoming "The Arabs were immediately interested in her as soon as she passed the winning post at Newbury", Nelson says. "Hundreds of thousands of pounds were mentioned, but already our hopes were firmly on the 1984 classic scene."

Slightly built and articulate, the Millfield-educated trainer goes on: "Before Newbury Mahogany had only had two serious pieces of work and Joe Mercer, who rode her in her final workout, came up to me afterwards and confided 'This one is a bit out of the ordinary'."

Nelson was tempted to run her next in the Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket, but opted instead for the Rockfel Stakes which she won, again in impressive style.

By that popular young stallion, Tap On Wood, out of a Red God mare, Mahogany is a big rangy filly who has been striding out well on the Mandown gallops recently. Mercer has regularly partnered her in her strong work and he rides her in her first appearance of the new season, the Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury, before tackling the Guineas.

Watching his star filly in her box, screened on the closed-circuit security system to his living room, Nelson remarks: "It is difficult to put a true valuation on the filly at this stage of her career – £1m, £2m, it is anybody's guess. She is only worth what somebody is prepared to pay for her. The crunch will come if she wins the Fred Darling. Then she will be a hot property."

Nelson, who enjoyed a recent working holiday in Cagnes-sur-Mer, runs Creag-An-Sgor (by Captain James, out of Happy Thought) in the Greenham Stakes at Newbury. "He loves to bowl along in front and does not need much work to get fit. I am hoping Steve Cauthen will be free to ride him," Nelson says.

Nelson, the younger son of Major Peter Nelson, who trained the 1974 Derby winner, Snow Knight, also achieved a Free Handicap rating for Double Schwartz (8st 7lb), who will tackle the big sprints this season, an a very attractive colt, Fan Club (8st 11lb), an exceptionally good walker who won at Salisbury.

Nelson has a refreshing and realistic approach to racing, "I don't want to start shooting my mouth off about our chances, because in this game you can so easily be shot down. But I am optimistic and I feel this is my strongest team so far," he says.

Three seasons ago he was confident of winning the 1000 guineas with another bargain filly, Millingdale Lillie, who cost 3,300 guineas, again at Goffs. "I don't like criticizing jockeys, by Lestor Piggott gave her an awful lot to do that day," Nelson says.

In 1980 Nelson had his best-ever season with 32 successes, but he slumped to only nine winners the following year, when the stable was struck by a virus. "It was dreadfyul," he painfully recalls. "All two two-year-olds who got it were never any good afterwards and it needed a full two-year cycle to shake off the effects."

Firm footing

Now Nelson is back on a firm footing again with his boxes comfortably full. Of his 46 horses, 20 of them are two-year-olds, including an imposing Ela-Mana-Mou colt, called Peatfold (in the Tulloch-Nelson ownership), Hilly, an attractive Town Crier filly, owned and bred by Lady Tavistock, and a Double Form colt, Lookie Lookie, should pay his way.

Nelson started training seven years ago when, with the help of an understanding bank manager, he purchased Kingsdown from his father. After selling off the main house and gallops, he retained the 50 loose boxes and covered ride and still lives in the converted accommodation

Sitting in his living room, once the tack room where his three whippets hog the settee, Nelson admits that his early days as a trainer were desperately hard. "But we struggled through and now I have the help of my brother, John, as assistant trainer the standard of horses at Kingsdown is higher than ever before."

There is little doubt that Charles Nelson is climbing to the top of the tree as a trainer, but he has a clear ambition – to win a classic. "You can land a group one race, like the Eclipse or the Sussex Stakes," he says, "but it is the classics that have the charisma." Only time will tell whether Nelson's pair of aces will be good enough to scoop the pool.

Dick Hinder

OLYMPIC GAMES

Americans curtail sponsorship of torch

Athens (AP) – Greek Olympic officials said on Monday they were satisfied that American organizers will not continue with the controversial commercial sponsorship of the Olympic torch relay for this summer's games in Los Angeles.

"We received a telex assuring us the selling of the relay has officially and categorically ended," the secretary-general of Greece's Olympic committee, Nikos Filaretos, said.

The committee had been convinced by the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee's latest assurance, and would do everything to ensure the Olympic flame's "smooth and traditional transfer to the United States."

A bitter feud has been raging for many months, between the Los Angeles Olympic organizers and Greek officials, over American plans to raise $30m for youth sports programmes. The Greeks opposed the plan, which allowed sponsors to pay $3,000 for each kilometre covered by Olympic torch bearers in the United States.

According to Peter Ueberroth, the president of LAOOC, some 4,000 kilometres of the 19,000 kilometre coast-to-coast relay have already found sponsors. He said 9,000 kilometres would be run without sponsors, by amateur athletes and former American marathon champions.

Mr Filaretos said the LAOOC's decision to call a halt to accepting contributions from sponsors was "a compromise but the only solution to the disagreement".

But Spyros Fotinos, the mayor of ancient Olympia, near the site of the original Olympic Games of 776BC, has said his 700 villagers are determined to stand in the way of the flame-kindling ceremony "unless American organizers give back all the money already collected". The flame-lighting is scheduled for May 3.

The flame will be electronically transmitted to the United States from Greece on May 7. The ceremony, in New York City, launches the relay that ends on July 28 in Los Angeles at the opening of the Games.

SKIING

Swiss can bank on success

The Swiss and the Americans, rising to the great occasions, took most of the honours in the Alpine ski racing season, which ended in Oslo at the weekend.

The leading figures in both teams suffered bitter disappointments, but not many passed up the extra opportunities of success and worldwide fame offered in an Olympic season.

The versatile Pirmin Zurbriggen and the slalom specialist, Erika Hess, revovered from Olympic failure to win the overall men's and women's World Cups. Debbie Armstrong and Peter Meuller came nowhere in the World Cup but won gold and silver at Sarajevo. And the Mahre twins took gold and silver in the Olympic slalom and promptly retired.

"It is winning the Olympics which counts in the history books," Phil Mahre, who beat his brother by 21 hundredths of a second down Mount Bjelasnica, said earlier in the season. "Nobody will look too hard to see who won the World Cup this year."



Miss Walliser: marketable

Bill Johnson, as undisciplined drop-out from the American team two years ago, returned to the senior circuit to triumph in both the World Cup and the Olympics. He took control of the downhill races after Christmas, beginning with a win in Wengen, climaxing with gold in Sarajevo and adding two more World Cup wins

Johnson and the Swiss, who eclipsed their arch-rivals, the Austrians, look likely to maintain their dominance next season.

Miss Hess, who has beenat the top of women's skiing for four years, will be aiming at greater consistency next season. "The Olympic defeats got on my nerves for a long time, she said. "I did not have the right feeling. That explains the swings in form."

Michela Figini has just begun what will surely be a glittering career. In the downhill at Sarajevo, at the age of 17, she became the youngest ever Alpine gold medal winner.

And Maria Walliser, who took the silver behind Miss Figini in the Olympics, but won the downhill World Cup, can look forward to riches as well as glory. She is said to be ready to switch skis. Any new contract with a ski manufacturer will have to take account of her World Cup success and her photogenic looks. "I am happy with my winter," she says, smiling a highly marketable smile.

REAL TENNIS

Lovell severe on Warburg

By William Stephens

Alan Lovell, the holder, advanced to the semi-final round of the amateur championship, sponsored by George Wimpey, at Hampton Court Palace yesterday when he defeated Thane Warburg, the Cambridge University captain, son of David Warburg, three times Amateur champion by 6-1, 6-1, 6-2.

Lovell, who deposed Howard Angus, a fellow Wykehamist and former world champion, after his 15-year hold on the Amateur title in 1981, only to lose it back to him a year later, was too severe for Warburg, frequently volleying service off the penthouse roof into the Dedans.

Warburg achieved many game points without being able to convert

Murray in a hurry for new stable

Tony Murray landed his first winner in his new role of stable jockey to Tom Jones, the Newmarket trainer, on Hafeaf. The victory came in the Auchans Maiden Stakes at Ayr when Hafeaf, the 11-8 favourite, swept home by one and a half lengths from Bounty Hawk.

It was the first time that Murray had ridden at only 8st 5lb for two years and as he dismounted from the winner he commented: "The ground out there is twice as bad as at Doncaster on Saturday."

Murray, aged 34, was pushing home the 1,018th winner of his career. It was touch and go last season whether he would give up riding. He was planning to switch to training, but was unable to find premises.

C A Lighting shot out of the stalls, but before a furlong Hafeaf took over and, revelling in the mud, held off Bounty Hawk. The winner carries the colours of Hamdan Al-Maktoum.

Wendy Carter, aged 19, probably enjoyed the easiest winner of her career when Prince Concorde trotted up by 15 lengths from Wildrush in the Coodham Handicap. Prince Concorde is trained by her father, Joe, at Malton.

Miss Carter said: "That is the fourth winner of my career. I have just returned from a six-week working holiday in Sidney, Australia, where I rode work for Bart Cummings."

Tommy Craig received a £100 fine from the stewards after saddling Banoco without leathers and irons in the opening Castlehill Apprentice Handicap won by Bossanova Boy. There was a delay to the start when Banoco had to be resaddled after the order to mount was given and it was also found that the girth strap was too short.

The starter then had to fit an adequate surcingle down at the start, which resulted in a five-minure delay. The stewards were not satisfied with Craig's explanation.

CATTERICK BRIDGE

GOING: soft (7.30 am inspection).
Draw: Low numbers best

2.15 TOYTOP STAKES (2-y-o: £983: 5f) (7 runners)

1 1 PROVIDEO (D) W O'Gorman 9-4 ... T Ives 4
3 BOARDMANS GLORY J Berry 8-11 ... K Darley 6
5 KODA KHAN W A Stephenson 8-11 ... G Skeats 1
6 SMILE-A-MILE D Yeoman 8-11 ... S Keightley 7 3
8 DADEKA DAWES Mrs M Nesbitt 8-8 ... A Crook 2
10 ESILAM H Blackshaw 8-8 ... S Webster 5
13 PRINCESS WENDY M W Easterby 8-8 ... K Hodgson 7
1983: Lak Lustre 8-11 E Hide (20-1) R Fisher 10 ran.

4-6 Provideo, 3 Princess Wendy, 11-2 Boardman's Glory, 10 Dadeka Dawes, 14 others.

2.45 FORCETT PARK SELLING STAKES (£1,123: 7f) (20)

1 0100- EASTFORM D Chapman 4-9-11 ... G P Kelly 5
2 0400- GAYGIG D Chapman 4-9-11 ... D Nicholls 9
3 0020- MARALINGO Mrs C Lloyd-Jones 4-9-11 ... – 14
4 40- PLEASURABLE E Alston 4-9-11 ... G Baxter 12
7 23320- HOLLINGREEN D Yeoman 4-9-7 ... S Keightley 7
8 0000- MING VILLAGE C Thornton 4-9-7 ... J Bleasdale 3
10 0000- FREEDOM GLORY (D,B) T Fairhurst 4-9-4 ... R P Elliott 6
12 0000- HAGEN'S BARGAIN F Yardley 4-9-4 ... G Duffield 8
13 0001- HOPEFUL WATERS J Spearing 4-9-4 ... P Robinson 19
14 0000- LINANHOT J Parkes 4-9-4 ... N Day 10
15 0300- PALACE OF LOVE H Fleming 4-9-4 ... C Dwyer 2
16 UPTOWN GIRL J P Smith 4-9-4 ... S Webster 15
18 KAREN'S BROTHER D Chapman 3-8-6 ... S P Griffiths 7 17
20 2300- SAMBOLA J Mason 3-8-6 ... K Hodgson 18
21 0- SKIATHOS M H Tompkins 3-8-6 ... R Curant 16
22 4000- SOOTY'S PAL J Parkes 3-8-6 ... C Ollivier 5 20
23 0000- SPRINGTIME DOUBLE M Lambert 3-8-6 ... M Birch 4
24 00- BIG SMILE R Thompson 3-8-3 ... M McAndrew 7 13
25 0000- KELLY BAY S Norton 3-8-3 ... J Lowe 11
26 0000- LADY LOCKET M Lambert 3-8-3 ... D Oldham 1
1983: Time To Reflect 4-9-7 E Hide (9-2) M Camacho 14 ran.

7-2 Eastform, 9-2 Hopeful Waters, 5 Pleasurable, 6 Sambola, Palace Of Love, 8 Gaygig, 12 Hollingreen, 16 others.

FORM: + EASTFORM, unplaced last two runs, (8-12) beat Lady Donaro (9-2) by 3l in non-seller (Pontefract, 8f, £2,444, good, Oct 10). HOLLINGREEN, behind final start, previously neck 2nd (8-6) to Harbour Music (8-7) at Hamilton (8f, £598, Good to firm, Sept 12). HOPEFUL WATERS 5th in 7f selling h'cap, easily had won selling h'cap 6f (8-7) by 4l from Easy Star (9-3) (Leicester, 6f, £751, good to firm, Oct 31). PALACE OF LOVE, favourite when only 7th last time out, had run 2l 3rd (8-11) to Some Sunny Day (8-11) in Chepstow maiden (8f, £1,063, hard, Aug 30). SAMBOLA, well beaten in seller final start, earlier 2¼ 3rd (9-0) to Singerman (9-0) in maiden (Newcastle, 5f £1347, firm, Aug 8). KELLY BAY, tailed off last time out. Previously about 4l 5th (8-3) to Russborough (8-1), winner this season, at Doncaster (8f, £1,383, good, Oct 21).
Selection: EASTFORM.

Catterick selections

By Mandarin
2.15 Provideo. 2.45 Ming Village. 3.15 Dromodan. 3.45 Why Work. 4.15 Fair Madame. 4.45 Kolomelskoy Palace. 5.15 PAGAN SUN (nap).

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Provideo. 2.45 Skiathos. 4.45 Sister Dympna. 5.15 Pagan Sun.

Michael Seely's selection: 4.15 Fair Madame (each way). 5.15 Pagan Sun.

3.15 YARM HANDICAP (£1,341: 1m 7f 180yd) (15)

2 0400- ARDOONY R Hollinshead 6-9-7 ... W Ryan 5 2
3 1100- CAVALIER SERVENTE P Wigham 6-9-7 ... M Wigham 5
4 000-1 DROMODAN M H Easterby 4-9-7 (4 ex) ... M Birch 1
5 0000- BLACK MIKE D Garraton 6-9-6 ... P D'Arcy 12
6 0/200- MEIKLEOUR J FitzGerald 5-9-4 ... S Cauthen 3
9 2040- ORANGE BLOSSOM (B) R Thompson 4-9-2 ... M Wood 11
11 044- GOOSEY GANDER G Lockerbie 5-9-0 ... S Keightley 7 7
12 0400- PORTER (B) E Carter 5-9-0 ... J Carr 7 8
14 0000- HYDRANGEA D Chapman 5-8-10 ... D Nicholls 9
16 0/000- THIRD REALM M Lambert 5-8-6 ... S Perks 10
18 00/0- RIFLE SHOT A Smith 5-8-6 ... N Carlisle 15
18 3400- EXCAVATOR LADY (B) Mrs M Nesbitt 5-8-5 ... S Webster 6
21 3200- LINE ABREAST S Norton 5-8-4 ... J Lowe 14
22 0000- SIR LUCKY (B) C Crossley 5-8-4 ... – 13
23 4040/ BERYL'S GIFT Mrs N Macauley 7-8-3 ... A Nesbitt 4
1983: Baval 6-7-10 Paul Eddery (5-1 fav) D Yeoman 15 ran.

3 Meikleour, 4 Sir Lucky, 9-2 Ardoony, 11-2 Dromodan, 8 Goosy Gander, Porter, 12 Orange Blossom, 16 others.

FORM: ARDOONY, 6th at Leicester Oct (9-7) same position, about 2l behind Hasty Goddess (8-10), when THIRD REALM, (8-6), 5th ORANGE BLOSSOM, (8-8) 4th, neck and head in front (Catterick, 1m 4f, £2,015, good Sept 17). CAVALIER SERVENTE, well behind in Cesarewitch, (8-7) had HYDRANGEA, (8-12) 14l back in last place when beating Graphics Solar (8-9) at Haydock (1m 6f, £1,866, firm, Aug 12). DROMODAN, (10-3) beat Shutler's Fling (10-3) 1½l at Doncaster (1m 2f, £2,635, good to firm, Mar 29). MEIKLEOUR, tailed off latest at Haydock Oct, earlier (7-13) ½l 2nd to Special Vintage (8-12) at York (1m 6f, £2,939, good to firm, Sept 1) GOOSEY GANDER, (11-2) 12l 4th to Path Of Peace (11-10) at Ayr (1m 7f, £1,494, good, Sept 14). PORTER, last of 11 at Redcar Oct, (9-4) had ORANGE BLOSSOM, (8-10) neck behind when 1l 5th to Al Nasr (9-7) at Nottingham (1m 5f, £1,648, firm Sept 5).
Selection: ARDOONY.

3.45 ORAN MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £629: 5f) (9)

1 BOLDCOTT TIGER Denys Smith 9-0 ... M Fry 3
3 LINCYEM J Berry 9-0 ... S Horsfall 5
4 RECRUIT IN TIME F Carr 9-0 ... J Carr 7 5
5 AILSA PEARL G Harman 8-11 ... G P Kelly 1
6 ALLEZ N Chamberlain 8-11 ... G Skeats 4
7 CODED LOVE K Stone 8-11 ... C Dwyer 8
8 NORTHERN PARADE M W Easterby 8-11 ... K Hodgson 2
9 PENTOFF D Chapman 8-11 ... D Nicholls 9
11 WHY WORK T Barron 8-11 ... S Keightley 7 7
1983: Stevula 8-2 M Birch (5-1) A Smith 11 ran.

9-4 Northern Parade, 3 Why Work, 4 Lincyem, 6 Boldcott Tiger, 8 Coded Love, 12 Allez, 14 others.

4.15 FAVERDALE HANDICAP (£1,280: 6f) (13)

2 4000- FERRIBY HALL (C,D) A Smith 7-9-7 ... N Carlisle 6
3 4320- FAIR MADAME (C,D,B) C Booth 4-9-5 ... G Oldroyd 12
4 300/2- MORWRAY BOY S Norton 4-9-3 ... J Lowe 2
6 2230- SPOILT FOR CHOICE (C,D) D Chapman 6-8-13 ... – 1
7 1400- ADJUSTED (D) R Hollinshead 5-8-10 ... S Perks 4
8 1301- MRS BUZBY (C,D) Miss S Hall 5-8-9 ... M Birch 10
10 0300- IBOLYAN SOUND (D) S Norton 5-8-8 ... J Lowe 11
11 0000- MERITOUS (D) T Taylor 9-8-4 ... A Bond 5
12 0000- VALLEY MILLS T Barron 4-8-1 ... G Duffield 9
13 0000- H R MICRO (C,D) M Lambert 6-8-1 ... W Ryan 5 7
14 1000- ARCHIMBOLDO (D) W A Stephenson 6-7-13 ... O Gray 13
15 0040- FINAL CAST (C) D Chapman 5-7-12 ... S P Griffiths 7 8
17 1204- MISS BELLA J Berry 3-7-7 ... K Darley 3
1983: H R Micro 5-7-9 S Donkin (8-1) M Lambert 10 ran.

11-4 Mrs Buzby, 7-2 Adjusted, 5 Morwray Boy, 7 Fair Madame, 9 Spoilt For Choice, Miss Bella, 12 Meritous, 16 others.

FERRIBY HALL (9-7), unplaced over 6f on final start, earlier beat SPOILT FOR CHOICE (8-10) a head with FAIR MADAME (9-3) a short head away in 3rd (£1136, good, Sept 16). IBOLYAN SOUND (8-12) was beaten 4l in 6th. VALLEY MILLS (8-11) unplaced. Adjusted (8-7), unplaced over 7f on final start, beat Hazardous (8-1) 3l first time out in 1983 at Yarmouth (6f seller, £657, good to firm, July 13). MRS BUZBY (8-13) beat Sparkling Form (8-7) 1l in Doncaster seller (7f, £1650, good to firm, Nov 4). H R MICRO out of first 10 on final start. Won first 2 races in 1983 including this event when beat (8-2) Incestuous (8-7) ½l (£1251, good to soft, Mar 30). ARCHIMBOLD (8-3), out of first 10 on Final Star, beat Marshal Osthoff (7-13) a head first time out in 1983 at Hamilton (6f, £1463, good, Sept 27).
Selection: H R MICRO

4.45 WHORLTON MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o fillies: £615: 1m 4f 40yd) (8)

1 EGYPTIAN N Chamberlain 8-11 ... G Skeats 2
2 4- KOLOMELSKOY PALACE B Hills 8-11 ... – 4
4 00- PENTLAND BEAUTY R Hollinshead 8-11 ... S Perks 5
5 0030- QUISISSANNO B Hills 8-11 ... – 8
6 000- REENY LEE R Whitaker 8-11 ... T Ives 3
7 00- SCOTT'S HILL Hbt Jones 8-11 ... E Hide 1
8 00- SI GABY S Norton 8-11 ... J Lowe 6
9 SISTER DYMPNA M Jarvis 8-11 ... B Raymond 7
1983: Vynz Girl 8-11 G Oldroyd (6-1) C Booth 10 ran.

11-10 Kolomelskoy Palace, 9-4 Quisissanno, 9-2 Sister Dympna, 8 Pentland Beauty, 14 others.

FORM: KOLOMELSKY PALACE (8-8 beaten 2½l by Test Of Time at Sandown (7f, £2,147, good, Oct 19). PENTLAND BEAUTY (8-11) 9th of 18 to S M (9-0) at Leicester (8f, £828, firm, Nov 1). QUISISSANO (8-11) 7th of 8 to Tophams Taverns (8-8) on final start (York, 8f, £2,637, good to soft, Oct 6) earlier 5l 3rd (8-8) to Cutting Wind (9-1) at Epsom (7f, £1,926, firm, Aug 30).
Selection: QUISISSANO.

5.15 SPRINGTIME APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£923: 7f) (20)

1 3900- WILLIE GAN (C) Denys Smith 6-9-13 ... D Leadbitter 15
2 0000- DUNHAM PARK (C,D) J FitzGerald 7-9-13 ... G Brown 12
3 000-0 O I OYSTON (C,D) J Berry 8-9-12 ... M Berry 1
4 0421- ROMANTIC KNIGHT (D) M H Easterby 4-9-11 ... S Donkin 10
5 0040- LEASE OF LIFE C Thornton 4-9-6 ... M Tebbutt 7 4
6 0/000- SILCA STAR KEY L Lightbrown 6-9-6 ... D Bardsley 7 20
7 0020- ROYAL DUTY (D) N Tinkler 6-8-12 ... C Steers 2
8 0000- FRIENDLY BOBBY (C,B) T Fairhurst 4-8-11 ... M Taylor 7 18
9 0010- BATTALION (D) D Chapman 6-8-9 ... S P Griffiths 9
10 0000- BETTABET GERAGHTY Miss S Hall 6-8-8 ... DOUBTFUL 11
11 1000- KYROOTA M Tompkins 4-8-7 ... R Carter 7 8
14 240-1 PAGAN SUN (D) A Bailey 3-8-9 (5 ex) ... D Fowler-Wright 7 14
16 0000- WHITE NILE C Booth 4-8-3 ... B McGhiff 7 6
17 0000- SONG MINSTREL (D,B) G Harman 6-8-3 ... S Keightley 16
18 0000- MOSES SAMPSON (D) T Taylor 5-8-1 ... J Carroll 7 7
19 3000- CUTACROSS A Potts 4-8-1 ... P Hill 7 17
21 0004- LATE HOUR R Hollinshead 5-7-10 ... T Davies 7 19
22 0/000- DANZIG M Lambert 7-7-8 ... Wendy Carter 13
23 0000- TARLETON P Rohan 7-7-8 ... J Quinn 7 5
24 0000- MONSANTO LAD H Fleming 4-7-7 ... A Geran 7 3
1983: O I Oyston 7-9-6 S Horsfall (6-5 fav) J Berry 10 ran.

4 Pagan Sun, 9-2 O I Oyston, 11-2 Romantic Knight, Late Hour, 9 Battalion, 14 Dunham Park, 16 Royal Duty, Kyroota, 20 others.

FORM: DUNHAM PARK unplaced Doncaster Nov (9-0) when O I OYSTON (8-6) was 5th and ROYAL DUTY (7-12) unplaced, won first time out under 9-8 over course and distance (7f, £1,862, good to soft, June 4), with BATTALION (8-10) just under 1l away in 3rd. O I OYSTON (9-0) well behind out of first 10 to Concert Pitch (8-8) at Doncaster (8f, £2,887, good to firm, Mar 23). ROYAL DUTY (9-6) 2l 2nd to Westwood Dancer (9-0) here (7f, £1,571, good, Sep 16), with BATTALION (9-2) 3½l further back in 5th. BETTABET GERAGHTY (8-11) about 2l 6th Top O'Th' Lane (8-13) at Redcar (7f, £1,604, good, Nov 3), with FRIENDLY BOBBY (8-13) 1l away in 7th and BATTALION (8-12) unplaced, had earlier won twice over 6f, including first time out (8-12) by 1l from Gentle Star (8-4) (Nottingham, 6f, £1,729, heavy, Apr 4). KYROOTA no show final start, earlier (9-0) beat Noble Blood (8-11) ¾l at Yarmouth (6f, £1,033, good to firm, Aug 17). PAGAN SUN (7-7) a 10l winner from Foot Patrol (8-1) at Doncaster (7f, £4,487, soft, Mar 24).
Selection: PAGAN SUN.

Ayr results

Going: Soft.

2.00 CASTLEHILL APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£1,226: 1m 2f)
BOSSANOVA BOY b h Rhodomontade – Samba (R Henley) 5-8-8 ... S Keightley (5-4 Fav) 1
State Trooper ch h Status Seeker – Sarah Pipelini (L Blaney Haulage Co Ltd) 7-8-6 ... J Wilson 2
Saffron Fewer b f Sagaro – Mondaine (M Bloor) 4-7-12 ... S Horsfall (10-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 11-2 Black Falcon (4th), 6 Miss Lore (6th), 7 Banoco, 14 Polar North, 16 African Pearl, 25 Chellidia (5th). 9 ran. 1½l, 7½l. P Makin at Marlborough.
Tote Win: £2.40. Places: £1.00, £16.50, £3.10. DF: £36.90. CSF: £18.24. 2 mins 39.08 sec.

2.30 AUCHANS MAIDEN STAKES (£872: 1m)
HAFEAF ch c Sandy Creek – Angkor Vat (H Al-Maktoum) 3-8-5 ... A Murray (11-8 fav) 1
Bounty Hawk b c High Top – Northern Tavern (Dr J Greenan) 3-8-8 ... G Duffield (9-4) 2
Simple Melody ch c Northfields (USA) – Melody (R Sangster) 3-8-5 ... N Connorton (12-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 10 Fifty Gold Short (6th), 12 Atavis, Misha, 25 Ballgarrow Girl, Eterwood (5th), C A Lighting, Go Banana's (4th), Voa (3 8 2 J Lowe). 14 ran. 1½l, 12l. H Thompson Jones at Newmarket.
Tote win: £2.70. Places: £1.50, £1.00, £2.80. DF: £2.20. CSF: £4.78. 2min 01.27 sec.

3.00 COODHAM HANDICAP (£2,398: 1m 5f)
PRINCE CONCORDE b g by Condorcet – Barstown Princess (Blyths Hall Farm Ltd) 4-8-0 ... Wendy Carter (7-1) 1
Wildrush b g by Free State – Ribble Reed (W C Watts) 5-9-0 ... N Connorton (12-1) 2
Northern Relish br g by Relko – Northern Lady (Lord Zetland) 5-7-9 ... M Fry (16-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 3-1 fav Auld Lang Syne (5th), 7-2 Cool Decision, Temple Bar, 7-1 Tinoco, 12-1 Frassass (4th), Indian (6th).
9 ran. NR: Bossanova Boy. 15l, 1½l. E Carter at Malton.
TOTE WIN: £13.90. Places: £3.70, £2.40, £2.60. DF: £57.20. CSF: £78.76. TRICAST: £1,188.34. 3 mins 36.42 sec.

3.30 LAMLASH SELLING STAKES. (£867: 6f)
JOLIE COURTISANE b f by Owen Dudley – Oh Well (R White) 4-9-6 ... G Duffield (14-1) 1
Mel Mira ch f by Rof Soleil – Her'land Mary (T Craig) 4-9-1 ... C Dwyer (11-2) 2
Debeye ch f Music Boy – Belle Berners (S Norton) 4-8-10 ... J Lowe (7-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-1 jt fav Melo Lerne, Michael Rice, 13-2 Rapid Lady (6th), 8-1 Single Hand (4th), 12-1 Waldron Hill, 14-1 Calcubet (5th), Sandy Cap, Early Jazz, 16-1 Mehragan, 25-1 Charlie November, Imperial Lantern, My Sweat Baby.
15 ran. NR: Full Circle 4l, 2½l. J S Wilson at Motherwell.
TOTE WIN: £11.70. Places: £5 40, £3.70, £3.30. DF: £81.70. CSF: £82.23. 1 min 28.11 sec. No bid.

4.00 HILLHOUSE STAKES (2-y-o: £1,235: 5f)
TAME AFFAIR gr c by Sardamer-Fair Fabiola (J Tremain) 8-11 ... D Nicholls (8-1) 1
Absent Chimes gr c by Absalom-River Chimes (B Hathaway) 9-2 ... E Hide (evens fav) 2
Abrasive gr f by Abwah-Sharp Lady (Mrs C Berry) 8-8 ... K Darley (100-30) 3
Also Ran: 5 Lumian (4th) 16 Thurso Prince (5th) 5 ran. NR: Star Video. 8l, 3l. R Stubbs at Huxey, Yorks.
TOTE Win: £5.20. Places: £1.80, £1.20. DF: £1.70. CSF: £15.40. 1 min 11.77 secs.

4.30 SMITHSTONE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,809: 5f)
MANX GOD b g by Welsh Saint-White Goddess (C Shaw) 7-3 ... S P Griffiths (7-1) 1
Dealt ch g by Decoy Boy-Shoe (Lady Clanwilliam) 8-5 ... G Duffield (10-1) 2
Blueganby br f by Blue Cashmere-Thorganby (Mrs J Hobson) 8-5 ... O Gray (10-1) 3
Also Ran: 11-2 fav Return-To-Jaina, 13-2 Rio Branco, 7 Blackpool Belle (6th), 8 Gan On Lad (5th), 10 African Image, Superb Princess, 12 Lady of Leisure (4th), Major Music, 14 Boom Shanty, Sully's Choice. 13 Ran. 2l, 6l. D Chapman at Stillington.
TOTE: Win: £20.20. Places: £8.60, £5.20, £2.40. DF: Winner or 2nd with any other horse: £2.60. CSF: £73.52. Tricast: £654.15. 1 min, 12.33 sec. PLACEPOT: £115.90.

TOMORROWS ADVANCE GOING: Liverpool good. Taunton: good to soft.

Tony Murray: victory on Hafeaf at Ayr.

HUNTINGDON

GOING: good

2.0 SANDY NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £1,005: 2m 4f) (19 runners)

2 0400 BLENDING B Wise 5-10-12 ... P A Farrell 7
3 2/000 COLDTRIC A Blackmore 7-10-12 ... Mr R Dunwoody 4
6 00 EXCLUDER P W Harris 5-10-12 ... P Scudamore
7 4233 GOLDEN BRIGADIER (B) J Old 6-10-12 ... S Morshead
8 0p-00 HAPPY HERO C Lee 6-10-12 ... S Johnson
10 4042 MILITARY CROWN P Allingham 7-10-12 ... M Hammond 4
11 0p00 MORGANS GOLD P Oliver 5-10-12 ... I Cox
14 SENTRY DUTY T Forster 7-10-12 ... H Davies
16 2p04 WORK MATE G Pritchard-Gordon 5-10-12 ... S Smith Eccles
17 04p0 BIC ROLLER G Balding 5-10-7 ... B Reilly
18 0p00 EVENING SONG B Stevens 5-10-7 ... R Muggeridge 7
21 04pp MADAM BUTTERFLY J Gifford 6-10-7 ... R Rowe
25 000 ALSHAHEER C A Bell 4-10-5 ... J H Davies 4
27 0000 CRUDEN BAY P Felgate 4-10-5 ... P Dever 4
28 3003 DAN ZAKI (B) Mrs J Pitman 4-10-5 ... Mr M Pitman 7
29 0p40 HARVEST FORTUNE H Collingridge 4-10-5 ... N Madden
30 0 MY CULLEN D T Thom 4-10-5 ... R Campbell 4
32 0422 WOJO (BF) M Ryan 4-10-5 ... J McLaughlin 4
33 0004 KITTY COME HOME (B) D Dale 4-10-0 ... A Carroll
1983: Military Band 5-11-2 R Rowe (9-4) J Gifford 21 ran.

3 Dan Zaki, 4 Wojo, 5 Work Mate, Sentry Duty, 6 Golden Brigadier.

Huntingdon selections

By Mandarin
2.0 Wojo. 2.30 Vale Of Welton. 3.0 Narsinh. 3.30 Manton Castle. 4.0 Goldenogan. 4.30 Black Magic. 5.0. Woolooware. Michael Seely's selection: 3.0 Narsinh.

2.30 ELTISLEY NOVICE CHASE (Div I: £1,256: 3m 100yd) (12)

1 0-111 BROWNYN Mrs S Davenport 7-11-10 ... P Scudamore
10 32ff CLONEEN KING P Ransom 9-11-1 ... –
14 2100 GOLD RACER I Dudgeon 7-11-1 ... R Chapman 4
16 f/0-up LAST RAINBOW C Drew 8-11-1 ... S McNeill
18 0-f3f LUCKY VINTAGE P Pritchard 7-11-1 ... Mr J Pritchard
20 0002 MIGHTY GENERAL J Gifford 6-11-1 ... R Rowe
21 10-0 NEXT WEEK M W Dickinson 7-11-1 ... D Browne
22 3f04 PEDIBUS F Lees 8-11-1 ... S Johnson
24 0pfu ROSTUILE R Perkins 6-11-1 ... A Gardner 7
27 100-f VALE OF WELTON N Henderson 8-11-1 ... H Davies
29 30-03 EMMABEL J Spearing 10-10-10 ... S Morshead
37 p0f0 RAMO'S LADY A Bailey 5-10-0 ... –
1983: Below The Salt 7-11-6 H Davies (11-2) T Forster 18 ran.

2 Next Week, 3 Bronwyn, 9-2 Mighty General, 6 Emmabel, 10 Cloneen King, 14 others.

3.0 WARESLEY NOVICE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£513: 2m 200yd) (12)

2 p000 CHARLIE KILGOUR A Pitt 5-11-9 ... R Linley
4 0200 SHIRLEY CREPELLA (B) K Bridgwater 4-11-6 ... R Crank
5 0f40 LEGAL BEAU P Allingham 5-11-5 ... S Andrews 4
6 2304 BLACKBOOSH J Bosley 5-11-3 ... Mr M Bosley 7
7 33f2 NARSINH (B) J Jenkins 5-11-3 ... J Francome
8 u410 NORTH LIGHT (B) J Bosley 5-10-13 ... M Caswell 7
9 0000 LE TOUQUET R Hartop 5-10-11 ... A Webber
10 004 ARNAB (BF) H Beasley 4-10-11 ... J Barlow
11 4p03 MISS INIGO (BF) H Webb 5-10-11 ... B Powell 7
12 0000 MOTTISHAM H O'Neill 6-10-11 ... Mr R Dunwoody 4
13 2000 MONS LAD H O'Neill 4-10-10 ... M Hammond 4
14 0200 PRINCE LEONARDO (B) T Jones 4-10-9 ... J Lovejoy
1983: Landing Board 5-11-7 (7-2 fav) P W Harris 15 ran.

100-30 Narsinh, 9-2 Blackboosh, 6 North Light, Arnab, 8 Miss Inigo, 9 Charlie Kilgour, 10 Mons Lad, 12 Shirley Crepella, 14 others.

3.30 JOHN BULL BEER KIT HANDICAP CHASE (£2,285: 3m 100yd) (7)

1 p3-04 SKEGBY O Brennan 10-11-10 ... M Brennan
4 0032 MANTON CASTLE R Shaw 10-11-2 ... A Webber
6 2244 BALLYMILAN F Sheridan 7-10-7 ... P Carvill
7 0p00 ROYAL ADMIRAL T Forster 9-10-7 ... H Davies
9 0002 HAYBALE (CD) (B) J Spearing 10-10-5 ... R Dickin
13 03pp CHANCE COMMAND (CD) (B) P Calver 9-10-0 ... C Grant
14 1f40 VIRGIN SOLDIER J Old 8-10-0 ... S Morshead
1983: Chance Command 8-10-13 C Grant (9-4 jt-fav) P Calver 4 ran.

11-4 Haybale, 100-30 Skegby, 9-2 Manton Castle, 6 Virgin Soldier, 8 Ballymilan, 10 Royal Admiral, 14 Chance Command.

4.0 COUNTRY MILL HANDICAP CHASE (£1,842: 2m 4f) (10)

2 4f-41 ST TORBAY W Ransom 11-12-0 (7 ex) ... S Andrews 4
6 3-000 CRANBOURNE TOWER B Wilkinson 8-11-4 ... R O'Leary
9 4b33 GOLDENOGAN R Armytage 9-11-0 ... Mr M Armytage 7
10 0000 TOM SCOLEY J Old 11-10-8 ... P Murphy
11 p0p4 MASTER MELODY W Hackett 13-10-7 ... M Bastard
12 pf0p TARZAN (B) J Gifford 9-10-2 ... R Rowe
13 p00p HUDSON'S BAY N Henderson 11-10-0 ... P Croucher
16 204f NINTH ADDITION (B) P Felgate 9-10-0 ... P Scudamore
19 0f30 ROMANY CAMP D Ringer 9-10-0 ... S J O'Neill
21 u000/ SOMERS GLANCE I Blair 15-10-0 ... B Powell 7
1983: Spiders Web 8-10-12 G McCourt (7-1) J Webber 9 ran.

5-2 St Torbay, 3 Goldenogan, 5 Master Melody, 6 Tarzan, 8 Ninth Addition, 10 Tom Scoley, 12 others.

4.30 ELTISLEY NOVICE CHASE (Div II: £1,248: 3m 100yd) (12)

2 2221 BLACK MAGIC T Forster 8-11-8 ... Mr R Dunwoody 4
3 1304 DAWN STREET (B) P Bailey 6-11-8 ... G McCourt
5 b301 LAW VENTURE Mrs P Sly 10-11-8 ... M Bastard
6 u410 NORTH LANE K Bishop 7-11-8 ... J Hurst 7
9 p004 CAUCASIAN P W Harris 9-11-1 ... R Stronge
11 bp00 COBBLERS CASTLE J Gifford 8-11-1 ... R Rowe
15 0003 GOOD AS EVER G Kindersley 7-11-1 ... A Webber
23 0000 POOR EXCUSE O Henley 9-11-1 ... –
25 4pp2 SEVEN ACRES I Wardle 6-11-1 ... –
32 u PRIZE NOTE A Turnell 8-10-10 ... Steve Knight
34 4-0f0 SPARTAN DAISY N Henderson 8-10-10 ... S Smith-Eccles
35 p0p4 TARA'S NEWS R Perkins 7-10-10 ... R Crank

9-4 Black Magic, 3 Law Venture, 5 Seven Acres, 13-2 Dawn Street, 10 North Lane, 12 Caucasian, Good As Ever, 16 others.

5.0 SANDY NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £1,012: 2m 4f) (22)

1 bpp0 BARZINI (B) C Williams 5-10-12 ... M O'Halloran
2 00- BEAUCOUP D'ARGENT Mrs C Dook 6-10-12 ... A Stringer
3 002 BLUES BANK B Wise 5-10-12 ... P Scudamore
4 0000- COMMONTY C A Bell 6-112 ... J H Davies 4
6 p0 DEV K Bailey 5-10-12 ... A Webb
11 00fp MANNA BRIDGE D Gandolfo 6-10-12 ... P Barton
14 00- MERRIE SHOON G Balding 8-10-12 ... G Playford
15 0044 NOVEMBER RAIN D Oughton 6-10-12 ... P Double
16 OLIVES STYLE J Webber 5-10-12 ... G McCourt
18 000p RHYMER'S TOWER J Gifford 5-10-12 ... R Rowe
21 TOOLEY STEET C Wales 5-10-12 ... S Shilston
22 pffu- VILLAGE FORGE O Brennan 9-10-12 ... M Brennan
23 0-4pp WAR CORRESPONDENT (B) D Ringer 7-10-12 ... S McNeill
24 0200 WOODLAND GENERATOR P Pritchard 5-10-12 ... A Webber
26 3/00f BELLINO W Musson 7-10-7 ... C Smith
27 u0 KELLY'S FESTIVAL Mrs P Sly 5-10-7 ... M Bastard
28 0-000 SPACE SPEAKER S Brodgwater 5-10-7 ... R Crank
29 f DUNCORMICK Mrs J Bealby 4-10-5 ... P Croucher 7
32 p00 QUEENSBURY JOE (B) D Dale 4-10-5 ... A Carroll
33 p004 SARENA PLASTICS (B) G Blum 4-10-5 ... S Smith-Eccles
34 0 TIGER TED D Morley 4-10-5 ... N Madden
35 340d WOOLOOWARE G Balding 4-10-5 ... B Reilly
1983: Superwizz 6-11-2 M Dwyer (5-1 jt-fav) J FitzGerald 20 ran.

2 Blues Bank, 7-2 Woolwooware, 9-2 Commonty.

Sandown results

GOOD: Soft 2.30 2m 4f chase 1, CLASSIFIED (P Croucher, 4-5fav); 2, Ballycross (P Dever 6-1); 3, Run To Me (B Powell, 14-1). Also run 5-0 Fury Boy (ur), 7-0 Applejo (4th) 33-0 Polar Express (6th), Shackletons Flier, 50-0 Rumwick Prospect (5th), 100-0 Dan Dare. 9 ran. Head, 8l. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £1.50; £1.00, £1.30, £1.40. DF: £3.90. CSF £5.89.

3.0 (2m 4f chase) 1, SAFFRON KING (Mr L Fogarty, 4-1); 2, Assured (Miss S Lawrence, 8-1); 3, Lakin (Mr S Sherwood, evens fav). Also ran: 7-0 Sub Rosa (5th), 11-0 Dancing Brig (6th), 16-0 Royal Classic (PU); 20-0 Crawford Cross, 33-0 Abo (4th), 50-0 Tenaro (PU). 9 ran 1½l, 15l, Miss P Barnes at Woking. Tote: £3.90; £1.40, £1.90, £1.30. DF: £19.40. CSF £32.84.

3.30 (2m 4f chase) 1, GAMBIR (P Scudamore, 2-1); 2, Mossy Moore (J Francome, 5-4 fav); 3, Chummy's Best (A Webber, 14-1). Also ran: 10-0 Co Member (PU); 12-0 Noon Gun, (5th); Landing Board (4th); 14-0 Spanish Streak (6th). 7 Ran. 5l, 8l, D Nicholson at Stow-on-the-Wold. Tote: £2.80; £1.90, £1.50. DF: £2.30. CSF £4.82.

4.0 (3m chase) 1, QUARRIER (Mr T Thomson Jones, 5-4 fav); 2, De Pluvinel (Capt G Frost, 3-1); 3, Shane Hill (Sgt D Warren, 25-1). Also ran: 4 Pine King (p/up), 11 Rushbury (fell), 16 Ballycullo (p/up), 25 Right Lady (fell), 50 Four Poster (4th), Swinging Light (5th). 9 ran. NR: Nova Gala. 8l, dist. T A Forster at Wantage. Tote: £2.30; £1.50, £1.10, £1.70. DF: £3.20. CSF £5.24.

4.35 (3m chase) 1, SPECIAL CARGO (W Smith, 7-4 fav); 2, Plundering (J Francome, 3-1); 3, King Ba Ba (A Webber, 9-2). Also ran: 6 Western Sunset, 10 Spantulla Boy (6th), 16 Sailor's Return (4th), 20 Approaching (5th). 7 ran. 1l, 10l. F Walwyn at Lambourn. Tote: £2.60; £1.50, £2.10. DF £3.00. CSF: £7.13.

5.5 (2m Chase) 1, LEFT BANK (J Francome, 4-1; 2, Tolraelbhach (N Madden, 7-2 fav; 3, Romany Nightshade (H Davies, 9-2). Also ran: 5 Midnight Song (4th), 8 Spinning Saint (p/up), 10 Restless Shot (5th), 14 Walnut Wonder (p/up), Benny's Boy (fell), 20 Zelda's Fancy (6th), 25 Broadleas (p/up), 100 Current Chance (fell). 11 ran. 8l, 10l. D Morley at Bury St Edmunds. Tote: WIN; £2.90; places: £1.20, £1.50, £1.50. DF: £10.50. CSF: £17.69. TRICAST: £60.22. TOTE DOUBLE: £7.85. TOTE TROUBLE: £24.85. JACKPOT: £1,032.85. PLACEPOT: £1.90.

Course specialists

CATTERICK

TRAINERS: M H Easterby 10 wins from 73 runned, 13.7%; W O'Gorman, 9 from 23, 34.7%; B Hills, 9 from 37, 24.3%.
JOCKEYS: G Duffield, 41 wins from 212 rides, 19.3%; M Birch, 18 from 173, 10.4%; J Lowe, 13 from 170, 7.6%.

● This year for the first time, the leading jockey at Aintree's three-day Grand National meeting starting tomorrow will receive the Ritz Club Charity Trophy.

هكذا من الأصل

ATHLETICS: SOUTH AFRICAN'S OLYMPIC AMBITIONS

Miss Budd runs into tough opposition on the first lap

By David Powell

Zola Budd has hardly covered the first lap, never mind reached the bell, in her race to represent Britain at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles in August. Though her switch from South African to British nationality now seems assured, she has many more barriers to clear, not the least being a formidable group of British women who are harbouring the same ambition.

Miss Budd's performances this year have been exceptional, but her intended new homeland has also taken great strides forwards over 3,000 metres, the event in which she is most likey to seek Olympic selection, during the past two years.

Zola Budd's best times in comparison to world and British records over relevant Olympic distances:

800 METRES: World record: J Kratochvilova (Cz), 1 min 53.28 sec. British record: C Boxer, 1-59.06. Zola Budd: 2-0.9.
1500 METRES: World record: T Kazankina (USSR), 3-52.47. British record: C Benning, 4-1.53. Zola Budd: 4-1.83.
3000 METRES: World record: S Ulmasova (USSR), 8-26.78. British record: W Sly, 8-37.06. Zola Budd: 8-37.50.

Five or the six fastest times on the United Kingdom all-time list have been set since 1981, and the British No 2, Jane Furniss, said yesterday that Miss Budd may need more than a few months to adapt to the demands of competition over here.

At the age of 17, Miss Budd has this year run within a few tenths of a second of the British records for 800, 1,500, and 3,000 metres. Her greatest potential appears to be over 5,000 metres, in which she has been credited with 15min 01.83sec, some seven seconds faster than the official world record, held by Mary Decker, of the United States. But, since there is to be no women's race at that distance in Los Angeles, she will have to choose between 1,500 metres and 3,000 metres.

Miss Furniss, who was seventh in the world championship 3,000 metres last August, and may be an even greater force in Los Angeles, considering her fifth place in the world cross-country championship on Sunday, said: "Zola is going to find it harder than she probably realizes. She will have to run the Olympic trials and there are loads of girls capable of giving her a good race. She might not be able to cope with having so many people up with her instead of being out on her own".

Miss Budd, formerly a matriculation student at the Central High School in Bloemfontein, has become the world's best-known barefoot runner, going without shoes because she regards them as a physical handicap. She has never been spiked, mainly because South Africa has no one capable of getting anywhere near her, but to continue barefoot in Britain would be to invite injury.

Christina Boxer, Britain's leading candidate for the Olympic 1,500 metres, said yesterday: "She would not be able to compete barefoot in Britain not only because of the athletes around her but also because the tartan surface is slippery when the weather is wet and her footing would be unsafe."

The British 800 metres record holder further suggested that the psychological pressure placed on Miss Budd might be too much for one so young. "Everyone is going to expect her to do amazing things, but it is not a foregone conclusion. A lot will depend on her character. Some athletes cope better with pressure than others and we can't tell at the moment how she will react."



Time is not on the side of Miss Budd.

While one leading South African newspaper commented that Miss Budd could hardly be blamed for wanting international competition, the president of the South African Amateur Athletic Union, Charles Nieuwoudt, was pessimistic for her chances of living up to expectations in Britain.

"It's like beig thrown into the deep end of a pool before you can swim", he said. "It's a real war over there. You ask for nothing and nothing is given. You get boxed in, they use elbows and hands, anything goes. Our athletes lead a protected life. We apply the rules very strictly. Zola is small, slim and very shy. I am really feeling sorry for her."

Provided Miss Budd is granted a British passport – and the Home Office has said it would view "with sympathy" her application – she would then need to overcome rule number eight of the Olympic Charter. The rule states that an athlete must wait three years after a change of nationality, but this can be reduced, or even cancelled, by agreement between the international federation and the national Olymic committee concerned. Further approval would then be needed from the International Olympic Committee.

RUGBY UNION

Colclough leaves the international scene

Maurice Colclough, the British Lions and England lock, has retired from international rugby. He informed the RFU secretary Bob Weighill yesterday from his home in France, where he has been sorting out business commitments.

Colclough will be unable to tour with England if they vote to go to South Africa this summer and his loss will be a considerable blow for the England coach Richard Greenwood.

Colclough, who will still be available for Wasps and his county, Sussex, has won 21 England caps and played in all four internationals for the Lions on their tours to South Africa (1980) and New Zealand (1983).

The England captain, Peter Wheeler, said, "This is a big blow. Maurice is a big man in all respects and he will be missed on and off the field by the players.

"He will be very difficult to follow and players with his international experience are hard to replace. I know he has had a tremendous battle against injury, plus business commitments in France, and it must have been a major strain on him this season.

"There are a number of young locks who have been making noises and now one of them is going to get a chance sooner than he thought.

David Hands writes: Colclough's decision will further weaken England in an area where they have no obvious replacements. The lineout has been a major source of discussion during this season's championship and some thought must have been given to moving Colclough back to No 4 – the position where he was so successful when England won the Grand Slam in 1980.



Colclough: difficult to follow

During the Lions' tour of New Zealand in 1983, he had only just recovered from cartilage and liagament damage sustained playing against France in January and was no at his best. Things did not improve this season. He performed criditably as leader of the London division side which ran the All Blacks close and scored the only try of the match when England beat New Zealand last November. That was the highlight of his, and England's season. As Syddall, the Waterloo lock, is injured the selectors may now take a closer look at Cusani and Kimmins, the Orrell lock.

Bailey takes the helm from the port side

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Mark Bailey, the Cambridge University captain and England trialist left wing, will lead England's Under-23 team against a Rest team composed of England students at Richmond on April 4. The game will act as a trial for selection of the Under-23 party to tour Spain in May.

In view of the controversy which surrounded the position of left wing in England's senior side last season, it is interesting to see that the Under-23 team includes another left wing, Goodwin, of Moseley, on the right.

Bailey has two of his Cambridge colleagues in the backs, Simms, the Liverpool centre, and Andrew at stand-off half, who played for the Under-23s last season. The forwards include Stuart Redfern, the Leicester loose head prop, whose brother Steve was capped at senior level as a replacement against Ireland this season.

Stuart Redfern played for the Midlands division against New Zealand last November but was prevented by unjury from bidding for higher honours. He is now back in the Leicester side

ENGLAND UNDER 23: I Dodson (Leicester); J Goodwin, C Smith (Mosely), K Simms, M Bailey, captain; and R Andrews (Cambridge University), H Fitton (Sale); S Redfern and C Tressler (Leicester), J Curry (Gosforth), F Emeruwa (Wasps), N Redman (Bath), R Kimmins (Orrell), P Buckton (Liverpool), D Richards (Leicester).

REPLACEMENTS (available for both sides): S Hogg (Bristol), G Halsey (Harlequins), R Lozowski (Wasps), S Smith (Bedford), A Woodhouse (Harlequins), G Oiver (Harlequins), G Smith (Moseley), M Rose (Wasps), D Egerton (Loughborough U), D Pegler (Wasps).

Date goes against Bath

The Rugby Football Union have announced that the remaining John Player Cup semi-final between Nottingham and Bath will be played on April 7. The clubs had been at odds over the most convenient day (David Hands writes).

After the semi-final was washed out last Saturday by the weather, Nottingham offered April 7 as an alternative. Bath's committee met on Monday evening and suggested April 14.

Bath argued that the April 7 date was only a week after the county championship final when 13 of their players will be representing Somerset. They are understandably anxious to avoid injuries with a cup-tie looming, yet had last Saturday's game taken place, Bath would have been without two injured first choice players.

The April 14 date, however, would have allowed Bath to select Chilcott, their regular loose head prop, who is currently serving a suspension which ends on April 12. The winners on April 7 will meet Bristol, the holders, in the final.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Britain aim for first win

By Keith Macklin

There is one area of rugby league where Britain does not dominate France. At senior student level, France are unbeaten in 11 consecutive games, with the twelfth taking place in Villeneuve-sur-Lot tomorrow. The British students have been undergoing intense preparation with their coach, Geoff Peggs.

The game is making rapid strides among senior students under the auspices of the University and College Amateur Rugby League Association, but the French students have had an organized 13-a-side game for much longer and are extremely strong. The British team contains players from four universities, one polytechnic, two colleges and one technical college.

TEAM: A Bailey (Salford Univ), M Branch (Liverpool Univ); A Browne (Wakefield District Coll), M Bagshaw (Liverpool Univ), D Burke (Leeds Poly), A Dakin, D Ellis, K Ellis (Wakefield District Coll), M Hancock (Wigan Tech), K Hinchley (Liverpool Univ), R Proctor (Bradford Univ), A Rawnsley (Doncaster Coll), P Sheeran (Liverpool Univ), P Sharman (Bradford Univ), H Sharp (Leeds Poly).

On Sunday the fourtythird amateur international between Great Britain and France will be played at Oldham. The British team, which includes ten new caps, will be looking for their seventh successive victory over France. The game receives sponsorship from Greater Manchester Council and Oldham Metropolitan Borough.

● The Great Britain tour of Australasia from May 13 to August 9 will include three internationals in Australia and three in New Zealand.

● Fulham will play Kent Invicta in a friendly at Craven Cottage on May 4, the eve of the Challenge Cup final at Wembley. The Invicta vice-chairman, Len Pearce said: "We threw down the challenge and they accepted. We hope it will become an annual fixture."

SPORTS COUNCIL

Council warning on drugs

The Sports Council are to consider withdrawing their grants from governing bodies who refuse to introduce random drug-testing. John Wheatley, the Sports Council's director general, said yesterday that they had decided to take greater responsibility for removing drug abuse, and that withdrawing their grant aid support was one of the options they will consider.

He said: "All the governing bodies I have spoken to are in favour of this move. Sport is concerned with honesty and health, and drugs are concerned with cheating and illness, and the Sports Council cannot stand by and watch this situation."

At present, only 14 of the 60 governing bodies under the Sports Council's umbrella use the free drug-testing facilities which have been made available by the Council.

The Council's recommendations will now be put to Minister of Sport, Neil Macfarlane, before he goes to a conference of European sports ministers in Malta, which will consider a European anti-doping charter.

SCHOOLS FOOTBALL

Two Essex schools unbeaten

Two Essex schools can look back on the Lent term with satisfaction. Chigwell, despite losing Tapper, their prolific goal scorer in the Christmas term, have fared well, not losing a school match, and including a 6-3 win over Westminster. Brentwood have swept all before them, winning their 10 school matches, among which were 6-1 victories over Haileybury and Christ's Hospital. Allison and Sakala over the season since September have scored 53 goals between them.

Charterhouse this week started a tour in Bermuda to conclude their season. Griffiths has been outstanding during the term scoring 14 of their 39 goals including two hat-tricks. The highlights were against King Edward's School, Witley, Oratory and Sandhurst.

King Edward's School, Witley, were particularly pleased to complete a first ever double against Lancing. Having won 1-0 in November they followed this up by winning 3-1 in March. Snashall, their captain and goalkeeper, with three others, played for Southern Public Schools.

Millfield include in their opposition no fewer than six professional youth teams and recently they defeated a Bristol City youth XI. In their school matches they have lost only to Torquay Grammar School and rounded off their season with a good 3-1 win over Charterhouse.

Worcester Royal GS had six players in representative matches, Rowberry, Newman and Warrington, who is only 15, being outstanding. They have lost once and that only by the odd goal to Gandsworth GS, and have achieved good wins against Clifton and Bedford. In their half term tour to the north they were unbeaten, with successes against Burnley and QEGS Blackburn.

Of the other Lent term schools, Harrow have a remarkable unbeaten record of 17 matches against schools.

EQUESTRIANISM

Mrs Green taking four chances

By a Special Correspondent

Lucinda and David Green will be taking a lorry-load of horses to the Rushall horse trial, sponsored by Midland Bank, in Wiltshire today, hoping for better weather than they had on Sunday at Frensham, where the advanced classes were rained off.

Mrs Green, the world champion, rides no fewer than four horses, Regal Realm, Village Gossip, Shannagh and Encounter, all sponsored by SR Direct Mail. With Regal Realm being saved for the Olympic Games, the 16-year-old Gossip is a possible contender for next month's Badminton three-day event, assuming that he continues to make light of his advancing years.

Virginia Holgate, deprived of a run with British National Insurance's Night Cap on Sunday, has been allowed to make a late entry at Rushall. The horse needs an outing at this stage of his preparation for Badminton.

Both Richard Meade (with George Wimpey's Timaru) and Capt Mark Phillips (on the Range Rover team's Blizzard II) will be confining their efforts to the open intermediate class. Their Badminton entries will be waiting for Brigstock on Sunday.

Meade was one of those who had a ride at Frensham before the event was abandoned. But he would not describe that as an advantage since Timaru fell at the water.

The cross-country course at Rushall has been moved to higher ground and many of the fences will be visible from the hilltop car park.

Thanksgiving service

A service of thanksgiving for Geoffrey Miller, the European sports editor of Associated Press, who died in Sarajevo last month, will be held at the church of St Bride, Fleet Street, at noon on Thursday, April 5.

IN BRIEF

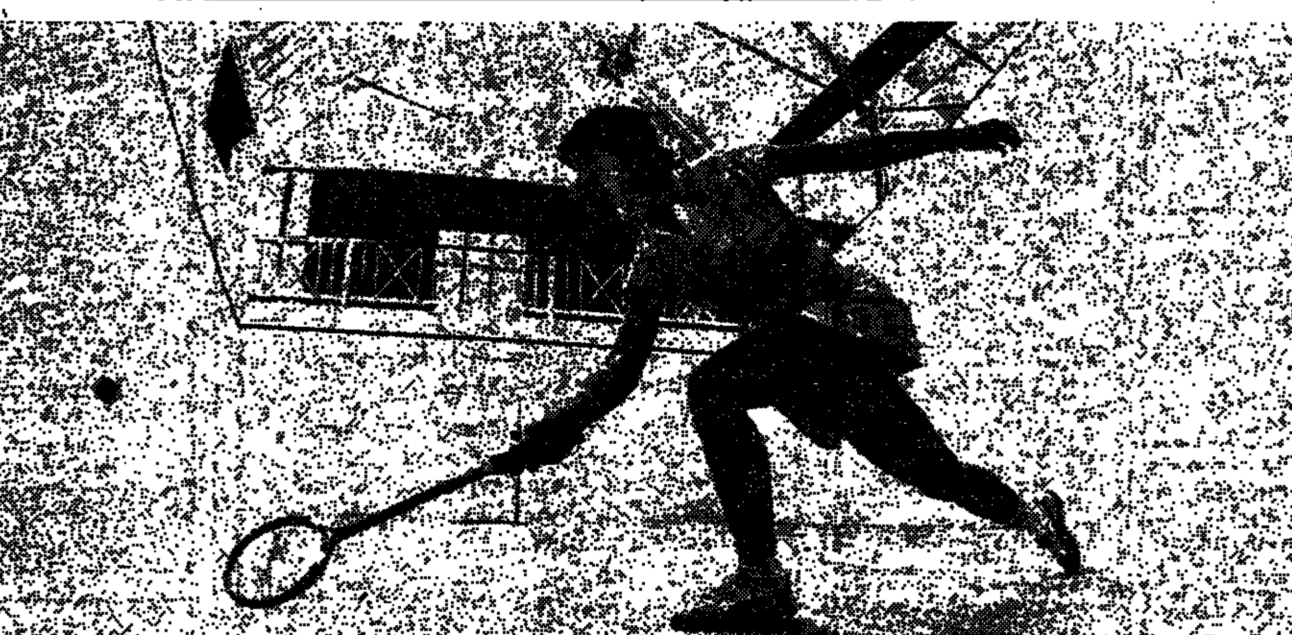
MOTORCYCLING: A world record £101,000 prize for the sport was put on offer yesterday by Motor Circuit Developments, operators of Brands Hatch, Oulton Park and Snetterton. It will go to any rider who wins all six legs of the Transnational Trophy which takes place over Easter and Mayday weekends at the three MCD circuits and Donington.

VOLLEYBALL: Lyn Tennant, the former Scottish international who moved South to play for Hillingdon, the English champions, is now eligible through marriage to play for England. She is likely to be chosen in the squad for the Spring Cup in West Germany next month.

TODAYS FIXTURES

Milk Cup
Final replay
Everton v Liverpool (at Maine Road, 7.45)
UEFA Under 21 Competition
Quarter-final, second leg
France v England (in Rouen, 2.0)
Second division
Newcastle United v Leeds United
Scottish Cup
Fifth round replay
Dundee United v Aberdeen
Scottish Premier division
Motherwell v Dundee
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Feltham v Hertford.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Milton Keynes v Merthyr Tydfil; VS Rugby v Bridgnorth.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: FA XI v FA (at Sutton).

Squash rackets: Miss Cumings is poised to challenge the best



Reaching for success: Alison Cumings, honing her game for this year's British Open. (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

All-rounder angling for the top

That renowned Guernsey coach, Reg Harbour, is a former mathematics master who has applied the principles of geometry to the tactical patterns of squash. There is a perverse logic in the fact that a like-minded young womam, Alison Cumings, has long been a source of competitive anxiety to the Guernsey-born players who rank first and second in Britain: Lisa Opie and Martine le Moignan.

Miss Cumings, who beat both to win the national championship 14 months ago, knows plenty about angles. She would have been a draughtswoman had she not been a squash professional, and she finds the mobile geometry of snooker relaxing.

Snooker arrived in the Reigate household during a period when Miss Cumings was not fit enough to play squash. For the second time, injury had introduced her to a new sporting interest. A decade ago her father, formerly a racing cyclist, had a cartilage operation and turned to squash to keep himsellf fit. After his matches he would play a few shots with Alison. "Squash was the last sport I took up," she said. "I was about 14. Within a year I'd got in the Surrey team. But there were not that many juniors: anyone who could hit the ball and run could do well."

Oddly, Miss Cumings has had no particular coach, though several distinguished players, including Hiddy Jahan and Barbara Diggens, have advised her. "And I've got my own personal feed: my Dad. We play for hours and hours.

"You can do it on your own. I think that's why I've done well. But I need somebody to help me mentally when I'm not playing my strokes."

The biggest influence on her game was probably that of John Skinner, a former British international, who helped her through four teenage years. She felt they had much in common. "He'd never been coached, really, and didn't play a very conventional game," she said.

"She had a lot of talent," Skinner says, "but she was rather lazy and stiff-legged to start with: not the good mover she is now." "But she progressed and I asked Ken Davies of Slazenger to have a look at her. He gave her a contract."

Miss Cumings did very well indeed. Last September, however, she was suddenly reduced to one sound foot when playing Rebecca Best in the final of a tournament at Munich. A metatarsal bone had snapped in half. "I heard it go, but I tried to play on, hopping along." That put her out of the game for almost five months – and out of the national rankings, too. She missed the world championship series and could not defend her British title, but in her first tournament back she beat Carin Clonda of Australia, ranked fifth in the world. A week later she took a game from Miss Opie, which is not an easy thing to do.

"You must be in the top four here to earn a living"

"If I can challenge Lisa after a five-month lay-off I've got to feel confident of challenging anybody, Alison said. "No one else in this country has done that against Lisa this season. She's being coached by Jonah Barrington and she's getting everything right." Miss Opie, Miss Cumings, Miss le Moignan, and Ruth Strauss, all aged between 20 and 22 years in Australian hands.

"We've pushed each other up, Alison said. "I can be No 1. If it has to be No 2 or No 3 I don't mind, as long as I feel that I've fulfilled my potential. There's still a lot to come."

Miss Cumings reckons that the contract has provided about 30 per cent of her income. Prize money has raised about 20 per cent. The other 50 per cent has come from her sponsors, Avia International, the watch company. "In this country you have to be in the top four to start earning a living from the game." To save money for overseas tours she has worked part-time at two local greengrocers and she now works three hours a day packing watches.

The Cumings family have all been gifted at one sport or another. "My parents and sister reached quite a high level. Dad was a pretty good cyclist, and my sister Elaine swam for Surrey under-18s.

Miss Cumings excelled as a schoolgirl at hockey, netball, athletics, and even football. She three the javelin for Surrey, once competing against Fatima Whitbread. She three the javelin for Surrey, once competing against Fatima Whitbread. She played five-a-side football for Oxted in the final of the Oxted teams who won five consecutive national hockey titles.

"One of the other interests was art. I liked drawing. I took O-levels at art, technical drawing, and maths, because I knew that if I couldn't do some kind of sport, those were the most important exams for a draughtswoman. At the same time as I was taking my O levels I won the British junior open and got selected for England. My parents decided they would allow me to have a year at squash, just to see in what direction I could go".

They know now. "It was always my ambition to become good in one of the sports, to succeed at something in life, to get to the top in whatever job I was going to do. I know where I want to get to. That's why I've done well. If you really want to do it you will keep on going and eventually it will come right."

Rex Bellamy

also on page 3

Buyers' Guide

North of the Thames

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

The flats with the mostest

There is something rather attractive about the description of a maisonette in central London as "one of the better flats to come on to the market in Eaton Square", when one expects an estate agent to exaggerate the claims of a property he is selling, or at least display a certain amount of licence in saying it is without doubt the finest to come his way.

Eaton Square is the key, however, for Andrew Langton, managing director of Aylesford and Company – who offered this description – added that if you ask half a dozen agents for the very best location, most would say "it has got to be Eaton Square, then Grosvenor Square."

Mr Langton believes there are not so many good flats in London, compared with New York or Paris for example, but he is selling one now – at No 93, Eaton Square, former home of the Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin – at an asking price of £1,260,000.

It was at one time the headquarters of the Nuffield Foundation and then was acquired by Iranians in the 1970s. When a rebuilding programme was nearly completed, the house burned down in mysterious circumstances.

Whatever the cause, the house was a shell, leaving a good view of the sky from the basement. Since then the house has been totally rebuilt and divided into three flats, the first two going for £1m and £450,000.

The last carpets are now being laid on the remaining maisonette, which occupies the ground floor and basement, or lower ground floor as it is called in order not to offend anyone's sensibilities. The joint agents, Aylesford and Knight Frank and Rutley, are offering it on a 62-year lease with fitted carpets, curtains and other fixtures

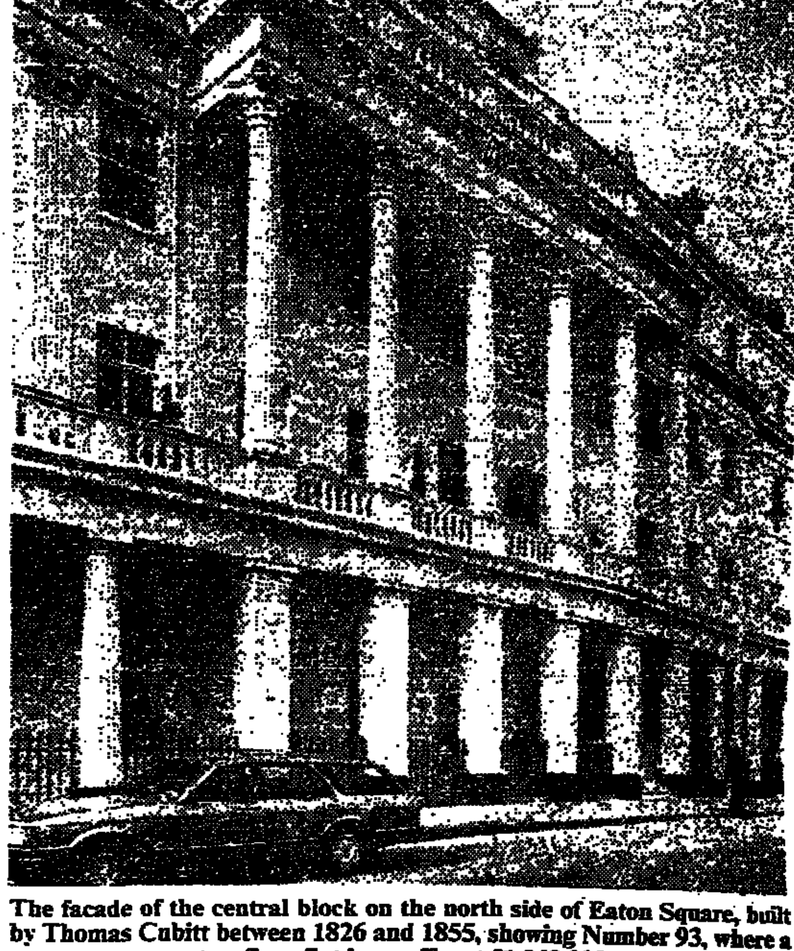
The interior has been decorated by Colefax and Fowler in classical style, less rich than the "Arab renaissance" which demands gold taps as a start, in the hope that it will attract Europeans or British rather than just oil-rich Arabs.

Many of the rooms have trompe d'oeil effects, with plaster painted to look uncannily like marble and one wall to look like stone, done by Jim Hardy.

The accommodation includes a master bedroom suite, three more double bedrooms and a maid's bedroom, all with a bathroom en suite. The master suite includes a study/library, dressing room and bathroom, and is a formal reception room and dining room. The lower floor looks out on to a patio garden with a spiral staircase to a paved terrace, and the property has a comprehensive security system

Not surprisingly there is only a limited number of people interested in the best of London flats, and it will not be advertised in the normal way. Instead the agents will draw up a list of those they think might be interested.

To judge by the experience of the agents, Chestertons, in Grosvenor Square – second best to Eaton Square according to Andrew Langton – few British customers are likely to be on



The facade of the central block on the north side of Eaton Square, built by Thomas Cubitt between 1826 and 1855, showing Number 93, where a two floor flat is on offer at £1,260,000.

the list. Chesterton's Mayfair office have sold six flats in Grosvenor Square in the last six months for a total of £3m, with prices ranging from £150,000 to over £800,000.

An Indian bought two adjoining flats for around £1.5m: a Greek purchased a substantial first floor flat; an Ameriacn bought a 7th floor flat with a separate studio and roof terrace; a Frenchman purchased a two bedroomed flat and an Iranian bought a three bedroomed flat.

Chestertons have at present on offer in the square a substantial penthouse of contemporary design for about £1m, and a basement flat with indoor patio and plunge pool for £450,000.

Back in Grosvenor Square, again on the favoured north side, Howard Minter and Company are offering a two-floor flat at No 110 at £650,000 for a 34½ year lease.

The newly refurbished property, owned by an antique dealer, is on the first and second floor. The flat has a dining room kitchen/breakfast room, master bedroom with bathroom en suite, with two further bedrooms and another bathroom.

If one must move away from the two squares, and somebody has to, a flat in a Nash terrace overlooking Regent's Park could provide a tolerable alternative. Hampton and Sons are offering an apartment with 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms and two bathrooms at 40 Cumberland Terrace, Regent's Park, for £285,000 on a 40 year lease.

The apartment was once the home of Mrs Simpson, Duchess of Windsor, and is on the second floor behind elegant white pillars, with direct views over the gardens of Cumberland Terrace and the expanse of the park.

Only the trees should hide a view across the park to the west, to Clarence Terrace, where Pearsons are asking £300,000 for a first floor flat at Number 22, a former home of Lord Litchfield. The building, with its Corinthian columns, was designed by Decimus Burton between 1821 and 1823 under the direction of John Nash

The flat contains a drawing room, dining room, double bedroom, single bedroom/study, bathroom and kitchen. The drawing room overlooks the park and its sash windows lead to the colonnaded balcony, and the flat is offered on an 81 year lease.

A view of the park is one thing: panoramic views of the whole of London are another. They area available for £305,000 through Keith Cardale Groves at the Penthouse apartment on the 41st and 42nd floors of the Ladderdale Tower in the Barbican, reputedly the highest apartment in Europe.

Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Overseas Property

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Shopping around on the Costa

The slight strengthening of the peseta against the pound over the past five months, in contrast to its slide of the previous year, is just one of the underlying factors which have contributed to a significant steadying of Spanish property sales to the British this winter.

With no fear of exchange controls being reintroduced and prices stabalizing after the frenetic upward trends of the past four year, potential UK purchasers have become more selective and are prepared to shop around before deciding on their eventual leisure home.

The Costa del Sol is still, without doubt, where most of the British aim to buy. The choice is vast, there is no closed season and the optism of the developer seems ever-increasing, particularly as the Middle-Eastern market there is still strong.

The top end of the market is centred around the vicinity of the Marbella Club where one project currently well into its third phase, El Ancon Sierra, is being built by British developer John Green's company, City and St. James's Investments Ltd.

El Ancon Sierra, situated on a sloping site within the Las Lomas de Marbella Club estate, just behind the Saudi Arabian king's palace, has views both over the Mediterrean to Gibraltar and Tangier and inland to the foothills of the Sierra Blanca.

Unusually for a development so close to Marbella's town centre, John Green has managed to create a tranquil environment within the estate – not an easy achievement along this coast where urban living is becoming the norm.

Of the 16 villas in phases 1 and 2 just five remain, ranging in price from £105,000 to £250,000. They are all finished to an exceptionally high standard with marble floors and skirting throughout, with four or five bedrooms, en-suite bathrooms, vast terraces and private pools. Phase 3, due for completion in June, consists of 30 two and three bedroom terrace apartments and garden townhouses priced from £77,275 to £170,500.

El Ancon Sierra has its own private club for the exclusive use of residents with its own pool, bar and small restaurant. There is a 24 hour management to adminster all security, grounds and pools, maintenance and an on-site letting office.

Not everyone seeks the sophistication of Marbella. For the individulist requiring a custom-built villa, Fincasol, the Spanish and UK based company, have a construction department based at their Sotogrande office with staff able to see a project through every stage.

"Once building permission has been obtained, the averagee three to four bedroom house should be completed in about six months", says Fincasol's UK director, John O'Sullivan. "Building costs vary according to the terrain but expect to pay between £55,000 and £60,000 for a four bedroom two bathroom villa, fully landscaped with a pool, and ready to move into. Land prices vary tremendously. On the 4000 acre Sotogrande estate, a half-acre plot can cost anything from £10,000 upwards."

For those requiring absolute privacy, Fincasol is selling four one-acre fully serviced plots at Las Olivas (a fifth is sold with a villa currently under construction) near Gaucin for around £18,000 each.

Details: Finascol, 4 Bridge Street, Salisbury SP1 2LX. Tel: 0722 26444.

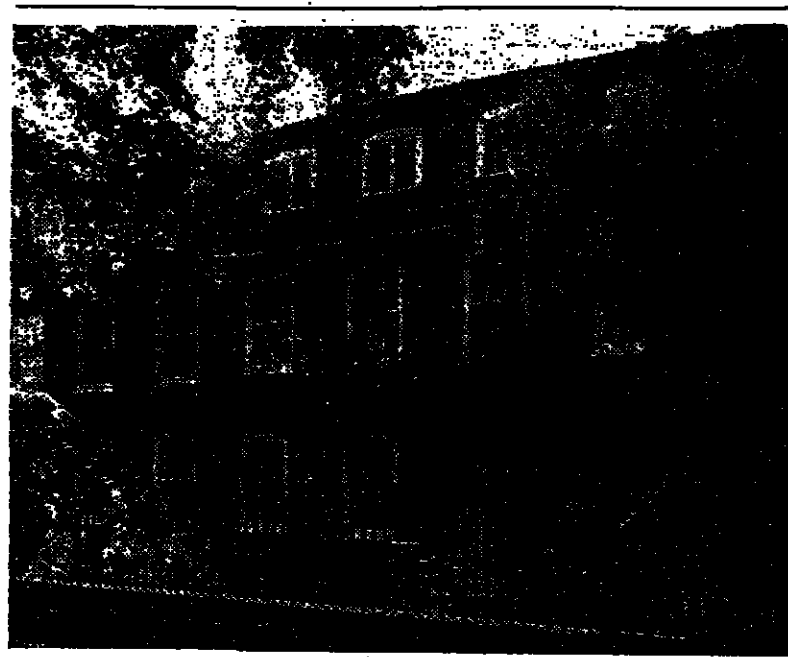
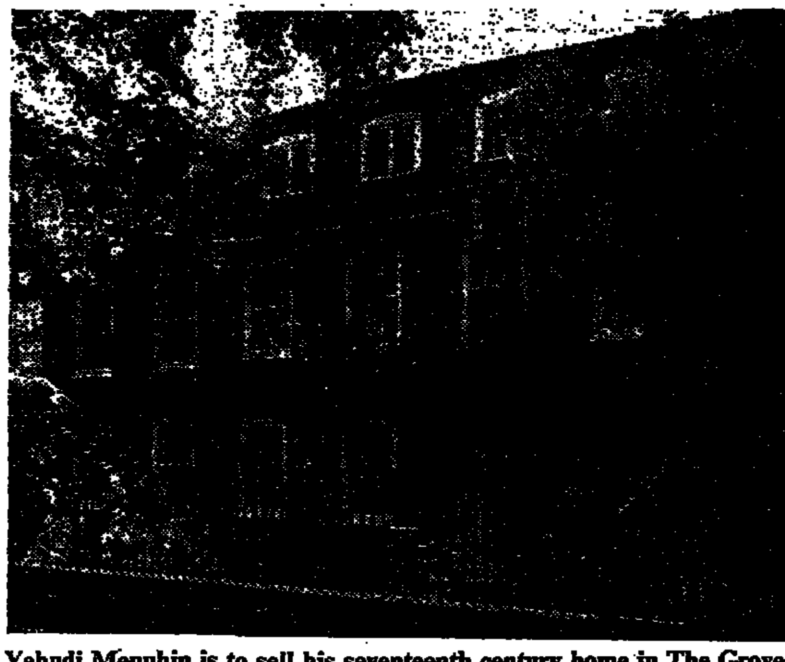
In an effort to cater for potential second home owners who require nothing more than home-comforts in a beach-side setting, Premier Overseas Properties has just started building a traditional pueblo-style development – Furntemar – on the established 1,100 acre Las Fuentes estate on the Costa Azahar 70 miles north of Valencia. This is a region virtually unknown to the British and while it lacks the sophistication and commercialism of the Costa del Sol it can offer a glimpse of what the real Spain is all about.

Phase 1 of Fuentemar consists of 30 three bedroom stepped town houses and 16 one, two and three bedroom apartments all grouped around a swimming pool set some 150 yards from the beach adjacent to the four star Las Fuentes Hotel.

The apartments range from £14,649 to £21,365, all have large terraces, fitted kitchens and are tiled throughout with terracota ceramic tiling. The houses, costing £26,000, are indentical, finished to the some specification as the apartments and have a spiral staircase linking the two floors.

Details: Charles Thom, Premier Overseas Properties Ltd, 15 Berkeley Street, London W1X 5AE. Tel: 01-499 5031.

Diana Wildman

Yehudi Menuhin is to sell his seventeenth century home in The Grove, Highgate Village, where he has lived for the last 24 years. The Knightsbridge office of Knight Frank and Rutley, in conjunction with Aldine Honey and Co., are expecting a price around £650,000 for the property, which is to be offered at auction on May 16 if not sold before. The Grove is a terrace of houses built between 1680 and 1688, situated at the highest point in London in Highgate Village with views over Hampstead Heath, and its residents have included Samuel Taylor Coleridge, J. B. Priestley and Gladys Cooper.

Safe as houses

● An abiding worry for anyone leaving their property empty to go on holiday is that some disaster or act of God might strike while they are away. A firm seeking to calm those worries is Homesitters, which provides a live-in caretaking service for home owners.

It aims to ensure that the house is not left empty, thus protecting it from burglars, squatters, vandals and fire risk. It also undertakes to look after the family pets.

Homesitters takes great care in selecting people to caretake their clients' homes, investigating their backgrounds over the previous 20 years and taking up references. It is a highly personalized service, and every effort is made to match the homesitter to the likes, needs and situation of the home owner.

The service is nationwide, in any location and at any time. The cost of homesitting is £5.95 plus VAT a day and from £7.25 plus VAT with pets, and in addition home owners are required to cover modest travel expenses and provide basic food for the homesitter.

Details of the service, which has been endorsed by area crime prevention officers and insurance companies, can be obtained from Homesitters, Buckland, Near Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 5HY, tel: 0296 631289.

Buyers' Guide

Property

also on page 32

La crème de la crème

SECRETARY REQUIRED

For small Tanker Company located in modern quarters West End. Applicants must have good skills, Cheetah 87 telex operation, shorthand and typing knowledge of simple Bookkeeping/PAYE/VAT is preferred but not essential. Salary A.A.E.

Please Apply in writing giving full C.V. to: Mr N. B. Madsen Clarion Tankers Services Ltd, Calder House, 1 Dover Street, London, W1.

PERSONNEL OFFICER

CITY £14,000

Aged 30-40, with ideally 3-5 years exp. within an Insurance environment. All aspects of Recruitment, Employment Law & Pensions etc. Varied and very rewarding career offered.

Mrs Hayes Acme Appts.
158 Bishopsgate, EC2. 01-247 9701
C.V's Welcomed

CONVEYANCING EXPERTISE £8,200

This position as secretary to a senior partner offers a high level of involvement to someone with good conveyancing experience and audio ability. super offices based in the West End.

SAIL AWAY £8,500

An excellent opportunity to work at the very top with a partner specialising in Marine litigation. Good commercial experience and 100/60 skills required.

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT £7,000

A fascinating position working with a young and friendly firm of solicitors who are involved in the entertainment business. 100/500 skills and one year's general legal experience are needed.

PORTIA
Legal Secretaries
01-499 8070

RECEPTION/ TELEPHONIST with a difference

It's not just that it's a brand new job in brand new offices, lavishly equipped no expense spared. Or that it's the HQ of a large, well known company and part of a vast commercial empire. Or even that it's a small, detached executive suite. The BIG difference is where. Not W1, but E1. So, if you live E, NE, or SE of town, it's ideal. You'll meet and greet a lot of people, all types, all levels. Operate the latest in high-tech switchboards (Monarch), handle the post, type a bit, maybe. To live up to it, you need good grooming and education – and although not "trafty" well spoken not "gor blimey", either. Age 25-40. Hours 9-5. Salary super. Ring:

01-734 7282

MARY OVERTON
RECRUITMENT LIMITED
35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB

£10,000 Project Finance

The Director of this international bank needs a committed PA to assist him in the organisation and expansion of their project finance business.

You will follow projects through from the feasability stage to completion, providing total PA support and holding everything together when he travels abroad.

Impeccable skills and personal presentation are essential for this demanding but appreciative man.

Speeds 100/60. Age 28-40.

ANGELA MORTIMER
TEL: 629 9686/7/8/9

SECRETARIES

Earning around £7,200 - £8,400 pa

Why not consider temping?

You will have excellent pay and more variety. Last week our Temporaries worked as:

PA at Director level with a well known tobacco company.

Copy Typist for retail division of brewing company.

Audio Secretary to a Chartered Surveyor.

Why not ring us to ask about next week's selections?

KINGSWAY
temporary staff consultants
Number One Kingsway London WC2B 6XF
Telephone: 01-836 9272

PA - W1 £9,000

Major public company requires an efficient, PA/Secretary, capable of dealing at all levels, to work for their Deputy Group Managing Director. Varied day, with the ability to act on own initiative and respond under pressure when necessary. Applicants should be familiar with the dictates of working at a senior level. 100/60; 32-42 years.

PA/SECRETARY £9,000 + mortgage subsidy

An interesting job working at a senior level for a go ahead organisation. Bright, lively person with a sense of humour, able to organise extensive travel arrangements, look after overseas visitors, identify priorities and hold the fort in the boss's absence. Good presentation and an eye for detail important. Any knowledge of French an asset. 90/50, 25-35 years.

YOUNG SECRETARY £7,500

Working in W1 for a firm of international contractors in friendly, cheerful environment. Busy, varied day, full PA/secretarial back-up, arranging lunches, dealing with telephone queries and capable of handling people at all levels. 90-50 21+.

499 9175
MacBlain NASH
Recruitment Consultants
16 Hanover Square, London, W1.

SNR WORD PROCESSING SECRETARY

C.£8,004 + Generous Benefits

Secretary is sought to join a friendly, team-spirited company of Stockbrokers as a backup to one of the partners. The duties will involve shorthand and W.P. typing. Excellent speeds required. Salary + generous lunch allowance + non contrib. pension scheme + Free B.U.P.A. + Bonus.

Please telephone 734 4284

Career plan
17 Air Street London W1 (Rec Con)

Bi-lingual French PA/ Secretary in Bond St. £8,500

Completely fluent French coupled with good English skills – 100/60 min – could win you this excellent position with this multi-national company with very smart offices in the West End. As Secretary to the Managing Director, you will be involved in secretarial duties, translations, travel arrangements and the organisation of this small busy office. Age mid 20s +

International Secretaries
Recruitment Consultants
01-491 7100

FILM RESEARCHER

Requires secretary interested in entering the exciting world of Television. If you have secretarial experience, 'A' level education, good speeds and an organised mind, this could be the job for you. Training will be given to the successful applicant. Salary £6,400 rising to £7,400 p.a.

499 6566
493 8383

THE GROSVENOR BUREAU
Staff Consultants

SECRETARY INVESTMENT BANKERS £8,500 + Bonus

A young, intelligent, enthusiastic person, probably a 2nd jobber, to work in a dynamic environment for 2 executives in security sales. There is considerable client contact therefore an excellent telephone manner and good skills are essential. There is real opportunity to use your initiative in this first rate organisation and the salary and benefits reflect the calibre of person we require. Stupendous benefits and working conditions.

Phone 583 5441
MISON RECRUITMENT

EXPANDING PRIVATE GENERAL PRACTICE

Needs 2nd Secretary/PA for exciting busy and rewarding post, working for two Doctors. Shorthand/Audio and typing essential. Previous medical experience helpful but not essential.

£8,000 pa.
Hours 9 am to 6 pm.
Tel: 235 3002

LEGAL SECS/WP OPS.

Join our exclusive temporary team now

Excellent skills (55+ wpm) will be matched with:-
A The needs of our clients.
B Excellent rates and benefits.

We pay bank holidays and 4 week's holiday pay pa and offer free word processing training. For an appointment please contact:-

GILLIAN/MAUREEN
01-353 8342
MANPOWER LEGAL SERVICES, FLEET ST.

Advertising and Personnel to £7,000

A leading advertising agency with a number of famous name clients seeks a Secretary to join their busy Personnel Department. This position will involve a great deal of administration and people contact. You should have a good memory and a warm, calm personality in order to mix well with all levels of staff. An excellent training will be given. 90-50 skills needed.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
18 Grosvenor Street London W1
Telephone 01-499 8070

PUBLIC RELATIONS To £7,500

A rare opportunity to join one of the U.K.'s leading P.R. consultancies in a part account handling / part secretarial role. Age 21-25, preferably with 'A' Levels, you should have about two years' secretarial experience (90/50 W.P.M.), be suited to a sophisticated, dynamic environment and ideally have a background in P.R.

Full details telephone
BARRY EAGLESTONE on 01-631 1085
Recruitment Consultants
Price Jamieson

Administrative PA £8,000 + generous benefits

A superb opportunity has arisen for an experienced secretary who enjoys a happy and involved environment. Versatility, vivacity and 'A' level education are pre-requisites whilst the variety of the position affords the candidate the chance to use initiative and diplomacy. Age 25-30 and excellent skills (100-60). Please telephone 01-493 5787.

GORDON YATES LTD
35 Old Bond Street, W 1.
(Recruitment Consultants)

SECRETARY/PA

Mature unflappable secretary with smart appearance to work for the Managing Director and Sales Director of an International Travel Company based in Bromley. An ability to work on own initiative is essential for this varied and interesting position. Speeds 100/60, age preferred 25-30, an attractive salary is offered according to age and experience.

Please reply in the first instance with CV to: Marie Downey, Contiki Travel International Ltd, Cranmer House, 3 Cranmer Rd. London SW9.

WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS

SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR

An interesting position is available as secretary to Director/Administrator in our well appointed West End office. This is a position for an experienced person with high level of secretarial skills who would wish to work hard in a stimulating environment, good salary and related benefits. Replies in writing please to:

Personnel,
Walt Disney Productions Ltd
31-32 Soho Square, W1

Executive Sec £8,500

At Last! Getting really involved in this busy marketing side of this highly successful Co working closely with Director. S/H and typing skills with a knowledge of WP. Stimulating career prospect. Call 439 8287 Joanna Denny.

PA/AES £8,000 + Free Meals

A rewarding position for someone who enjoys involvement within a busy Production Dept. Age 24+ Shorthand and typing skills combined with good education background. Phone 439 8287 Jennifer Tulley.

ABC RECRUITMENT
01-439 8287

To £9,000 City

PA/Sec 28–32 (150) to join excellent expanding Marketing & Promotions Co. at senior level. Must be responsible, quick thinking with a head for business and enjoy a lively working atmosphere. Phone 437 8476 or 734 3768 133 Oxford St. Rec Cons

Miller/McNish

Numbers' Game £9,000

BANKERS seek numerate Secretary with potential to develop position.

SOLICITORS have a new post for an Accounts Ass't/Secretary (no s/h) for boss who is a true delegator.

Both positions require familiarity and experience of accounts/bookkeeping.

Call 588 5081 or send CV (with day Tel No) Imperial House, Dominion St. WC2.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS RECRUITMENT LTD

£8,500-£9,000 + MORTGAGE SUBSIDY

2 young Corporate Finance Executives at successful bank in WC2. Seek a cheerful, flexible and well presented P.A., 25-35. This busy job includes lots of telephone work, travel and meeting arrangements. Banking experience and speeds of 100/50 essential, W.P. helpful. Lovely offices and super benefits.

Please ring 588 3535
Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

SWITCHED ON SECRETARY

Required by lively firm of Estate Agents in Old Bond Street, W1, to work for two Partners/Negotiator. Exc shorthand/audio and knowledge of wp together with pleasant and cheerful personality Competitive salary + LVs is offered.

Tel: C H Orman, 01-493 1613
No Agencies

PA to City Broker

The Senior Partner in a City Broking company needs a competent PA/Secretary who can work closely with his clients giving sound secretarial support when he is in the office and coping independently when he is away. He is an important figure in the City and his Secretary must have the confidence to arrange prestigious functions and liaise directly with top level people. If you would like an interesting and varied position, and have skills of 100/50, please contact:

Senior Secretaries on 01-606 1611. Salary £9,000.

Senior Secretaries
Recruitment Consultants

PA/PROPERTY TO £8,500

The MD of this small, extremely professional, property management co. in SW7 needs a PA with the potential to delegate the secretarial after the first year and take on more and more admin and managerial responsibility.

You must be smart, well-spoken and have the intelligent confidence to turn initial use of your excellent typing and some audio into an exciting career opportunity (Age 24-33).

Susan Beck
TEMPORARY & PERMANENT RECRUITMENT
10 BEAUCHAMP PL. SW3. 01-584 6242

CITY SEC

Job satisfaction and involvement for mature self reliant organiser in busy 3 man finance section. We travel-you cope! Secretarial skills taken for granted. Word processing.

£7,500
Large group benefits.
Please apply with C.V. to:
MAUREEN CROSS
50 Mark Lane, London, EC3

PERSONNEL c.£6,500 + free travel + lunches

The Personnel and Training Officer of a Holborn based company needs a bright secretary to assist him in all aspects of Personnel. A genuine interest in people and good sh/typing required.

Tel: 01-580 9645
Tudor Appointments

Prestigious PA Knightsbridge c £8,000

Total involvement within this small "upmarket" consultancy. Liaise with and greet clients. Work continuously on your own initiative. Informal, friendly atmosphere in superb offices. No sh req but good typing is essential. Pref age 27-37. For further details ring: Mrs Mitchell on 439 8071, Kingsland Pers Cons.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE ESTATE AGENTS

A capable Receptionist/Telephonist is required for leading Knightsbridge Estate Agent to work in a lively and friendly office. Salary according to age and experience.

Telephone Graham Cannon on 01-235 9641

INTERVIEWER c£16,000-£18,000

Are you operating a temporary division? Are you seeking more scope and freedom to use your initiative? We are a small privately owned Co. offering partnership opportunity with no investment required.

For an informal chat, call: 483 6994 or after 7 pm 908 4680

£9,000

Shorthand Secretary required for successful Businessman absent abroad for long periods. Interesting varied work including some telephone work, private business and general running of the office in SW3 area. Age immaterial. hours 9.30–6pm.

Please telephone EMMA 589 4023

Receptionist

required by oil company, W.1. Good typing essential, varied and interesting position. Age 17/21.

£6,000 neg.
Phone 409 0777

LUCIE CLAYTON'S

Sec. with good skills and cheerful unflappability even in a busy Knightsbridge office needed for M.D. of this group of finishing schools. 24 to 35. About £8,000.

Tel: 01-581 0024

3 PA/SECRETARIES

Required for Continental Company opening modern office in Berkeley Square. Salary neg.

Please apply, with CV, to: Mr. Bisset, T.E.S., Mercury House, 195 Knightsbridge SW7

Buyers' Guide

Property South of the Thames

AYLESFORD

946 9811

Wimbledon Common SW20. In the heart of a private estate backing onto golf course, a superbly presented, virtually new detached family home on the Tudor style. 6 beds, 2 baths, + shower, recep. hall, 3 recep. rooms, luxury kit/b'fastrm., dble. gge., secluded gdn. Offers around £300,000 F'hold.

Wimbledon Village, SW19. Close to the Common, and elegant double fronted detached Victorian family house, beautifully modernised. 4 recept., luxury kitchen, 6 beds., 4 baths., integral gge., secluded gdn., with heated swimming pool. £247,500 f'hold.

Wimbledon Common, SW19. Quietly situated close to village, a contemporary detached bungalow offering light accommodation. 29ft x 22ft living room + dining room, kitchen. 4 beds., 2 baths + shower. Walled gdn. and gge. £157,000 f'hold. Sunday view 01-946 1224 thereafter Aylesfords.

West Wimbledon, SW20. In a south facing cul-de-sac. A traditional detached family house substantially extended and superbly modernised, 25ft x 15ft living room & dining room, luxury fitted b'fast-/kitchen, study & utility room. 4 beds., bathroom & w.c. Secluded gdn. £120,950 f'hold. Sunday view 01-946 5755.

Coombe Hill, Kingston. In an exclusive close a most charming and pretty detached cottage style property. Beautifully presented. Through livingroom, diningroom, kitchen & cloakroom, master bedroom with en suite bath/dressing room, 2 further beds., 2nd bath., gge and delightful south facing gdn. £120,000 f'hold. Sunday view 01-942 1802. Thereafter Aylesfords.

Kingston Hill, Kingston UPON THAMES. A magnificent town house backing onto golf course meticulously maintained with full dble. glaz., superb kit., cloakroom, diningroom, sittingroom overlooking golf course. 4 beds., 2 baths., 2 car gge., pretty gdn. £105,000 f'hold. Sunday view 01-546 6548, thereafter Aylesfords.

Mitcham Park, Surrey. Quietly situated a fine post-war detached family house in superb order close to S/R station. 3 recep. rooms, b'fastroom, luxury fitted kitchen, 4 beds., bathroom and sep. w.c. + large attic room, generous gdns & gge. £105,000 f'hold. Sunday view 01-648 5114. Thereafter Aylesfords.

81 High Street, Wimbledon Common, SW19.

PUTNEY

One of the finest Houses South of the River. A beautifully presented Victorian detached family home. 4 reception, huge kit/break, 7 beds, 3 baths, clk, cellar, utility, garage. 140ft garden. C.H. Many original features.

£267,500.
WARREN & CO.
01-785 6222

BARNES

Very pretty well modernised terraced property, easy distance shops & station, double reception room, well fitted kitchen, 2 beds, bath, sep w.c. Landscaped patio garden & G.C.H. Freehold £65,000 inc fitted carpets.

KITSON & KING
878 4942

HANOVER GARDENS

Grade II listed early Victorian house in secluded South London Square, 1 minute Oval tube. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, reception room, large kitchen/dining room, conservatory, downstairs loo, cellar, walled garden. Gas C.H., fully converted. £89,500.

Phone 01-735 3966

Douglas & Gordon

Nr Clapham South. A delightful cottage style Edwardian terraced home. 3 beds, bath, large recep, kitchen, west facing garden. GCH, carpets. £62,950.

Clapham. Overlooking Wandsworth Common. Split level 2 bed flat, new conversion, finished to a very high standard. Large fitted kitchen/breakfast room, recep, bath. GCH. To incl 1st class carpets. £49,750.

DOUGLAS & GORDON
01-673 0191

BATTERSEA SW8

Friendly Victorian terraced house, in excellent condition with many original features. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, (1 en suite) study, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, dry cellar, small well established garden, carpeted throughout, gas ch, rewired, new roof, convenient Victoria/Waterloo SR. Good bus service to West End.

£72,000
01-622 5984

Period Cottage Kew Gardens

In quiet cul-de-sac. District line 5 mins. 2 beds., 1 bath., recep (open-fire). Superb German kit/breakfast room. Front & back (sth facing garden). CH. dbl glazing.

£88,950
01-584 8372 (office hours)
01-373 5904 (home)

RARE COMBINATION SOUTH LONDON

Rare opportunity of large modernised Edwardian freehold – inc separate small flat, modern kitchens and bathrooms, c.h., phones wall to wall carpets, curtains Many original features retained 21 mins to West End £48,500.

TEL: 01-692 6755

SPACIOUS PUTNEY FLAT

Unusually roomy & sunny top floor flat with superb views. ¼ acre communal garden. 1 min walk Putney Heath. 2 large double bedrooms, V.large reception. Bath & Kitchen (ff) Gas CH.

£46,500
Tel: 01-789 1295

KEW

Modernised Victorian cottage in treelined cul de sac. Hall, thru lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, outhouse, secluded 55ft south facing garden.

£64,950
Tel. 01-242 2877 office
940 4242 home

BARNES SW13 Prime Location

4 floors, Georgian home, 4 receptions, 6 beds, 3 kitchens, 4 baths, large garage, front and rear gardens, needs refurbishing. Imm. vac. poss.

£165,000
Tel. (0734) 62883

PUTNEY MODERN TOWNHOUSE on 3 levels in quiet cul-de-sac, 3 bed, bath, sep shower, sep wc, 37ft open plan lounge/kit/din, int gge, 35ft gdn. F/h. £84,000. Tel. 01-785 9567.

WANDSWORTH COMMON. – Spacious mansion. 3 lvls, fully mod. gas CH, 2 dbl beds, 2 baths, fttd kit, lge., SR, raised fire, lge insul loft, gdn, nr Tube £42,460 Self-contained grd floor also available. £28,000. Phone 675 2879.

WIMBLEDON PARK. – 4 beds, Edwardian terrace, 2 lge receps, with many original features: lux kit and bath: ex con throughout: £86,000. – Tel 946 6390.

BLACKHEATH. Conservation area top floor sunny flat, 2 beds (1 dble), 30ft lounge, stripped pine throughout. Original features preserved, old pine furniture available £36,500 neg View any time Tel: 01-318 5440.

WIMBLEDON PARK. – £115,000 f/h. Extremely spacious Edwardian home, gge & gdn, 4 beds, drawing rm, dining rm, superb sunny kit, utility/clkrm, bathrm, sep wc, gas CH, cpts & ctns. Exc cond. Sole Agents Townchoice 947 7361.

PUTNEY Vic 2 bed semi, mod kit & bath, GCH, lge gdn, nr river & common. £78,000. 01-788 7458 (H). 633 0866 ext 285 (W).

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

NORLAND NANNY required for well paid post, based in Switzerland with substantial world-wide travel. Interviews London first half April. Box No 1171L The Times.

EDUCATED young lady to organise central London house. Must drive, own room. Most evenings free. 01-460 4933 (day) or 01-730 6333 (eves).

COOK REQUIRED for leading design studio. 10am 3.30pm. Reply in first instance in writing to Stephanie Cochrane, Pentagram Design, 11 Needham Rd, W11 2RP.

EXP/NANNY/MOTHERS HELP. 4yr girl, baby exp June. O/R/TV. W6 nr tube, N/S, driver pref. 01-937 2897 (day) 01-749 0026 (eves).

EDUCATED YOUNG LADY to organise central London hse. Must drive, own room, most evenings free. Tel. 01-460 4933 (day) or 01-730 6333 (eves).

EXPERIENCED chef/cook required for private house. Driver, country and animal lover essential. Flat available. Apply in writing to The Countess of Halifax, Garrowby, York, YO4 1QD.

CHEERFUL Cordon Bleu cook preferably with car for super villa job in South of France. Start Apr 10th. Tel: 01-748 2198.

WORLD'S LARGEST Au Pair Bureau offers m'helps, doms: all live-in staff. UK & Overseas Au Pair Agency Ltd. 87 Regent Street, W1. 01-439 6534.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS REQUIRED

PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED mature Nursery Nurse, life experience birth onwards. Highest references, first baby from birth only. High remuneration expected in return for total dedication, free time of secondary importance. Non-smoker. Any distance, world-wide travel considered. Tel 0732 459849.

PROPERTY TO LET

CENTRAL CAMBERLEY

Comfortable compact det. family hse. Fully furnished, quiet rd. close station (London 59 mins) & shops. Drawing rm, dining rm, study, 5 beds, 2 baths, attractive gdn. sheds, lge. summer hse, integral garage. Avail. late April min 1 yr. £575 pcm. Tel. 0980 46203

FRESSINGFIELD

N Suffolk. Newly renovated 3-bedroomed wing of old farmhouse. Charming beamed sitting rm, open fire, logs, linen, elec incl. Slps 5. From £75 pw. 037986 267.

BRISTOL – Suburbs to let, secluded detached furnished 4 bedroomed house, close to all amenities. £400 pcm (inc). Tel: 0272 737859.

Property also on pages 30 - 31

NON-SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE/SALES ASSISTANT For luxury Knightsbridge showroom

Great opportunity to learn all aspects of running a small company. Must enjoy meeting people, be intelligent and well spoken and willing to work hard as part of a small team. Typing and driving useful. For detailed job description and application form please telephone Mrs Bing on 01-235 4833. Salary £5,500 negotiable.

RECEPTIONIST PROPERTY CO. £6,500

An ideal job for someone bright, vivacious and socially confident who would enjoy greeting visitors to the company's lovely W.1 offices and looking after a Monarch switchboard. Age preferred 25+

Bernadette of Bond St.
Recruitment Consultants
No 55. (next door to Fenwicks)
01-629 1204

DO YOU like people and know SW1 London well. Estate agents need efficient and able person to help purchasers buy flats and houses. Flexible hours/school holidays. 821 0786.

JAPAESE speaking office staff urgently required. Call Mrs Fumiko Sands 439 6462. Japan Services, 6 Warwick Street, London W1.

NORWEGIAN/SWEDISH speaking trainee travel clerk. £5,500 +. No previous experience necessary, full training given. Paragon Language Consultants. 580 7086.

PART TIME VACANCIES

PART TIME experienced Secretary/PA, small office Knightsbridge, hours and salary by arrangement. 581 8369.

RICHMOND. Afternoon secretary for 2 hardworking geologists. Phone 948 0163. Day/eves.

SEC/TYPIST W8. Property 20-30 hrs at £3.50 Cherfold Agy 938 1721.

APPOINTMENTS

COMPANION/SRN. For energetic President of International Company who enjoys good health, aged 69, 5ft 7in, seeks cultured, good-natured companion to encourage a relaxed healthy life-style and exercise. May include prolonged travel to USA and vacations in sunbelt resorts. Excellent salary for an experienced SRN who must be qualified: non-smoker, 45 to 55 years, up to 5ft 6in with a good driving record. A sound scholastic background and the ability to read and absorb easily would enable the successful applicant to act as executive assistant when needed. If you possess most of these assets, please write with full resume and photograph to Box 2390 H. The Times.

GERMAN NATIVE SPEAKER to be trained for telephone sales vacancy. Send CV to Box No 2495 H. The Times.

WEIGHT CONTROL Program experienced group leader wanted for exciting new venture central London. Tel: 435 3833 (10am-1pm only for info/appointment).

DRAYCOTTS WINE BAR Attractive charismatic person without full time employment required Mon-Fri evenings to run intimate Champagne and food bar Tel: 584 5385.

HARDWORKING PERSON (20+) with interest in antiques to run Fulham shop and do basic work/repairs on furniture and textiles. 736 6037.

LUCRATIVE INTERESTING WORK as tour guides for owners of large cars. New training programme just starting. British Tours Ltd. 629 5267.

SITUATIONS WANTED

MATURE PA/SEC 15 years experience world wide seeks permanent work in London. Box 1244 L The Times.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Little Sisters of the Poor at Meadow Road, South Lambeth, London SW8 1QH.

Are this month beginning their project to provide a modern Home on the site of their present Home which has served the Elderly of modest means since 1863. Due to its age and design for a past era it is no longer safe and must be demolished and re-built.



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Already £1,061,608.74p has been raised by the Little Sisters since 1980 and this effort is now being intensified so that in 1986 this new home will be a reality and a symbol of the respect and gratitude we all owe to the Elderly, whom the Little Sisters are privileged and committed to serve day and night. No Professional Fund Raisers are involved in the Appeal, thus, every penny received goes towards the unique goal – the new Home. A charitable group is financing all out of pocket expenses like postage, paper and engaging two typists, thus assuring that your donation goes entirely to the Building Fund. Every donation will be gratefully received and acknowledge (the Little Sisters of the Poor are a Registered Charity). Donors of £5 and over will receive a certificate from the Little Sisters.

To all who have already contributed go our thanks and to every reader we appeal for help. Covenant forms are available on request. God will never allow you to miss whatever you give to help others as He can never be out-done in generosity.

هكذا من الأصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM.

6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 6.55; review of the morning papers at 7.18 and 8.18; Mike Smith with the new Top Twenty between 7.55 and 8.00; and horoscopes at 8.33.

9.00 Bellamy on Botany. In part six of David Bellamy's ten programme series he examines Decay and Delicacy (r) 9.25 Ceefax 10.30 Play School, presented by Chloe Ashcroft (r) 10.55 Gharbar. Magazine programme of interest to Asian women. Today, Parveen Mizra talks to representatives of the London-based voluntary organisation, Sangan 11.20 Ceefax.

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Bill Giles 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles) 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. The guests include cooks Michael Smith and Prue Leith 1.45 Bod (r).

2.00 Film: Secret Beyond the Door* (1948) starring Joan Bennett and Michael Redgrave. Celia discovers too late that she had married in haste and that her husband has a side to his side to his nature that she never knew existed. Directed by Fritz Lang.

3.35 Cartoon: Tom and Jerry 3.48 Regional news (not London) 3.50 Magic Roundabout (r) 3.55 Play School, presented by Sheelagh Gilbey (r) 4.20 The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse (r) 4.25 Jackanory 4.40 Rentaghost (r) 5.05 Newsround with Paul McDowell 5.10 Moonfleet. The final episode of the seafaring adventure.

5.40 Sixty Minutes includes news from Moira Stuart at 5.40.

6.40 Harty. The final programme of the series and Russell's guests include the Codo Demon Drummers and Dancers of Sado and, making their first appearance as the group Oasis, Peter Skellern, Mary Hopkin and Julian Lloyd Webber.

7.10 Medical Express. Back trouble is the main item this week. The painful condition is estimated to cost industry eleven and a half million working days a year and the NHS some £60 million. There is also news of a successful treatment for acne.

7.40 The Day of the Triffids. Part four of the science fiction serial based on the book by John Wyndham (r).

8.10 Fame. Miss Sherwood's new teaching methods strains the honesty of some of the pupils at New York's High School for the Performing Arts.

9.00 News with Sue Lawley.

9.25 Q.E.D.: Testing Testing. The first of a new series presented by Anthony Clare examines how ordinary things are tested in an extraordinary way (see Choice).

9.55 Sportsnight introduced by Harry Carpenter includes coverage of the Courage Soccer Six tournament and three greyhound races from Wimbledon. Saturday's Grand National is also previewed.

11.18 News headlines.

11.20 Remington Steele. A crooked casino manager receives his come-uppance.

12.10 Weather.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain with John Stapleton and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; Pat Phoenix at 7.40, 8.45, and 9.12; 7.55 pop video; Ray Davies's magic moments at 8.10; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.35.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: War reporting. 9.47 Teaching children safety 10.04 The customs and events associated with Easter 10.21 The importance of writing skills 10.48 Modern history: Summer 1968 11.10 The people and elements of a village 11.22 Basic maths 11.39 How we used to live. The coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

12.00 Flicks. Christopher Lillicrap with the story of Peter's Chair 12.10 Sounds Like a Story. Mark Wynter with the tale of The Fisherman and the Genie (r) 12.30 Three Little Words Quiz game for married couples.

1.00 News with Leonard Parkin 1.20 Thames news from Robin Houston 1.30 A Plus. Kay Avila talks to Ann Oakley about miscarriages. 2.00 Crown Court. Continuing the case of the Pakistani accused of assaulting a right-wing youth.

2.30 A Country Practice. Drama serial about a medical practice in the Australian outback 3.30 Sons and Daughters. Stevie fights for his life.

4.00 Flicks. A repeat of the programme shown at noon 4.15 Batfink. 4.20 Letty. Part one of a new series begins with Letty and her three friends, Brian, Trevor and Cath, arriving at the Meadowbank Children's Home. 4.50 Jangles. Final episode (r) 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. Pat Sugden orders her former husband out of Beckindale. Will he take their daughter with him?

5.45 News 6.00 Thames news with Andrew Gardner and Tina Jenkins.

6.15 Crossroads. Carole Sands is put in a difficult position by her brother Colin while Doug Brady asks a big favour of his brother-in-law.

6.40 This Is Your Life. Eamonn Andrews with another potted biography.

7.10 Coronation Street. Bet Lynch accepts Fred Gee's invitation to accompany him to the brewery's dinner/dance but Betty Turpin refuses to run the Rovers' on her own (Oracle titles page 170).

7.40 Football: Milk Cup Final Replay. Brian Moore is the commentator at Maine Road, Manchester, for the match between Liverpool and Everton. Brian Clough is on hand to make pithy observations.

9.30 Charlie. Part two of the four-part thriller mixing murder with union corruption. Starring David Warner (Oracle titles page 170).

10.30 News followed by Thames news headlines.

11.00 Thames Sport Special introduced by Steve Rider. Five-a-side football from Wembley and boxing from Aberavon where Colin Jones meets Allan Braswell in a welterweight contest.

12.25 Night Thoughts from Rev Bill Todd.

Toy gun tester at work: Q.E.D. (BBC1, 9.25pm)

CHOICE

● For reasons it would take a psychiatrist to fathom, the commentary for TESTING, TESTING (BBC 1, 9.25pm), the film that rings up the curtain on another series of Q.E.D., the science for Everyman series, is delivered by the BBC's resident psychiatrist, Anthony Clare. It is not as if he had written it himself. Could it be, perhaps, that being Irish, it was argued that his would be the ideal voice for a film that has a high whimsical content? Not that it needed the hint of mockery in his voice to bring out the Monty Python piquancy of consumer tests such as the one performed on golf balls to ensure that they do not travel too far when hit, or the vacuum cleaner test that requires dust specially imported from Sweden, or (apparently, a serious project), the planting of rose bushes along a motorway to see if they would be any use as crash barriers. Alan Dobson, producer of Q.E.D. and the man who has put the words into Dr Clare's mouth, also manages to find something funny to say about bottled fizzy drinks. Tonic and beer bottles shatter at 300 pounds per square inch: yet, the strongest glass is used for that internationally renowned drink that, according to the posters, life goes better with – and its fizz force does not rise above 50 psi. Potentially the film's most amusing sequence is the one that shows exploding custard powder. But the grin freezes on our lips when we are told that precisely such a blast seriously injured eight factory workers, back in 1981.

● STRANGERS AND BROTHERS (BBC 2, 9.40pm) continues to make heavy demands on our powers of concentration. There is not a throw-away line from start to finish, and if the telephone should ring as you watch the latest episode, you are in danger of, at best, losing your compass and, at worst, your rudder. Last week's entry into the action of Anthony Hopkins's Roger Quaife has had a tonic effect on the serial. The scandal of his extra-marital relationship deepens in tonight's penultimate episode. As Lewis Eliot, Shaughan Seymour is proving that he is probably the most intelligent listener on British television today.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

6.55 Open University: Chemistry Crystals. 7.20 Looking at Poems. 7.45 Conceptual Models in Stratigraphy. Ends at 8.10. 9.00 Ceefax.

9.38 Daytime on Two: Animals of the soil. 10.00 Clap hands. 10.15 Maths counts. 10.38 Home economics: the information on food labels. 11.00 Trog and the dog. 11.17 Children's film music. 11.39 Writing music for film and television themes. 12.05 The final lesson of the Italian conversation course.

12.30 The last in a series that examines the work of members of parliament. 12.55 Micros in schools. 1.21 Italy and the Italian language. 1.38 Part four of The Daughter of King Ron. 2.01 Houses of different countries. 2.18 Narrative writing for beginners. 2.40 Zig Zag.

3.00 Ceefax.

5.10 Mentally Handicapped: A Dependent Future. An Open University production that examines the lives of Alan and Mary, two mentally handicapped people.

5.35 News summary with subtitles.

5.40 Film: Gunfighters of Casa Grande (1964) starring Alex Nicol and Steve Rowland. Cowboy yarn about a notorious gunman, Joe Daylight, and his attempts to rustle a number of large herds of cattle, aided and abetted by a gang of outlaws. The first ranch they decide to attack is the Casa Grande. Directed by Roy Rowlands.

7.10 Swallows and Amazons Forever! The nasty Hullabaloos are still on the track of Tom.

7.35 Open Space: Only Fools and Sportsmen. A documentary that examines drug abuse in sport – something that has reached epidemic proportions.

8.05 Sailor. The final programme of the series examines what some of the crew of the scrapped aircraft carrier Ark Royal are doing now, eight years after they were filmed on active service.

8.35 Geoffrey Smith's World of Flowers. This week Mr Smith examines the history and origins of mountain flowers (r).

9.00 Pot Black 84. The first semifinal – John Spencer versus Jimmy White.

9.40 Strangers and Brothers. Episode 12, Roger Quaife's career is rocked by a scandal (see Choice).

10.30 Newsnight.

11.15 The Twilight Zone: Nightmare as a Child* A schoolmaster meets a girl who is strangely familiar.

11.40 We Bring You Live Pictures. Part three of the history of the BBC's outside broadcasting unit (r).

12.10 Open University: Computing: Linear Equations 12.35 Non-Euclidean Geometry. Ends at 1.00.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 People's Court. Retired judge Wapner passes judgment in the case of How to Get a Headache.

5.30 Enthusiasts. The third programme in the series devoted to people who spend their energies on a special subject focuses on Ken Jones, seal doctor. Tonypandy-born Mr Jones has lived with his wife in St Agnes, Cornwall, since 1958. They bought a beach cafe and it was there that they met their first seal – a two-day old pup who refused to return to the sea. It was eventually kept in a bath. From this small start grew a seal sanctuary which became so large it has had to be moved to Gweek on the Helford River.

6.00 The Munsters* Herman is persuaded by an advertisement to buy ten remote acres for use as a family holiday hideaway. Two dubious estate agents try to buy it from him when Herman discovers that the land is really a delapidated ghost-town.

6.30 Flashback. The eighth programme in the series examining television's and cinema's approach to the concept of the family, deals with the optimistic 50s. The Ordinary Devoted Mother was the title of a series of radio broadcasts by psycho-analyst Dr D. W. Winnicott in which he sang the praises of housework and childrearing. The 50s also brought commercial television with happy families in the soap adverts but Dan Farson brought reality to the screen with his series, People in Trouble.

7.00 Channel Four News.

7.50 Comment. The political slot this week is taken by Jeremy Hanley, Conservative MP for Richmond and Barnes.

8.00 Brookside. Barry and Terry are still sweating over Tommy McArdle's missing car while at the Cross's attempts are made to reconcile Harry and his son, Kevin.

8.30 Diverse Reports. Weekly current affairs programme with, this week, Ferdinand Mount, literary editor of The Spectator, talking about a plan to privatize Britain's bus services.

9.00 Film: The Enigma of Kasper Hauser (1974) starring Bruno S. A strange story based on a real life incident when, in 1828 a young man was found standing motionless in Nuremberg's main square with a prayer book in one hand and a letter to the local regimental riding master in the other. Directed by Werner Herzog.

11.00 Voices. Robert Hutchinson chairs a discussion between Robert Trivers of the University of California, Richard Lewontin of Harvard and Marvin Harris of the University of Florida, on the theme Sociobiology: Culture on a Leash?

12.05 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Prayer. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Midweek: Libby Purves and studio guest Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader.
10.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time.
10.30 Morning Story: "The Doctor's Prescription" by Guy De Maupassant. Read by David March.
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News; Travel; Baker's Dozen with Richard Baker.
11.48 Through My Window. Second of six programmes in which busy people pause awhile and consider the view from their windows: Pam Ayres.
12.00 News; You and Yours.
12.27 The Bird of Dawning by John Masefield. A serial in six parts (5).† 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. Today's edition includes an interview with Professor Sir Fred Hoyle, the astronomer, physicist and author.
3.00 Afternoon Theatre: Visiting, by Colin Haydn Evans. Roger Hammond plays the man, recently released from a psychiatric hospital who, sitting in the park to escape the never-ending talk of his landlady, meets a girl (Tilly Vosburgh) less than half his age.†
3.45 Time for Verse. Judgment Day in poetry.
4.00 News; Just After Four. More opera house memories from Edward Downes.
4.10 File On 4. A second chance to hear last night's edition.
4.40 Story Time: "Woman and Puppet" by Pierre Louys (5).
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather.
6.00 The Six O'clock News.
6.30 My Music. A musical panel game, chaired by Steve Race.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 How to Be . . . An MP. Patrick Hannan gives some career advice for those who really want to become a Member of Parliament.
7.45 Fat Man on a Roman Road. The third of eight programmes in which Tom Vernon rides his bycycle from Exeter to Edinburgh (3) The Waters and the Wolds: Bath to the Costswolds (r).
8.15 Anthony Hopkins Talking about Music. Each week, he explores a different musical work or topic.†
8.45 Analysis: "The Challenge to Reagan" – Lord Crowther-Hunt chairs a discussion from Washington on policies and issues that will dominate this year's presidential election campaign.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes comment on Jose Donoso's book A House in the Country.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: "The Cone-Gathers" by Robin Jenkins (8). Read by Tom Fleming.
10.30 The World Tonight; Headlines.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close. Shipping Forecast.

ENGLAND: VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools: 10.45 Radio History. 11.05 Singing Together No 20. 11.25 Movement and Drama. 11.45 Contact. 1.55-2.00pm Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 2.00 The Music Box. 2.25 Introducing Geogagraphy. 2.45 Nature. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: 20th Century European Authors: Italian. 11.30-12.10 Open University: 11.30 Ballads, Folksong and the Romantics. 11.50 Education Otherwise. 12.30am-1.10 Schools Night-Time Broadcasting.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Your Midweek Choice. Pachelbel's Canon and Gigue; Bach's Capriccio on departure of beloved brother (Dreyfus, harpsichord); Purcell's Chaconne in G minor; Beethoven's Variations on theme from Handel's Judas Maccabeus (Jacqueline du Pré, cello); and Wagner's overture Rienzi.†8.00 News.
8.05 Your Midweek Choice: part two. Brahms's Variations on a theme of Robert Schumann (Alfons and Aloys Kontarsky, pianos); Haydn's Symph No 90; and Guilmant's March on theme of Handel (Preston, organ).†9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Schubert. Part one of Lazarus (with soloists Armstrong, Welting, Chamonin, Rolfe Johnson and Hill; New Philharmonic Orch and French Radio Choir.†
10.05 Variations on Paganini's 24th Caprice: We hear two variations, by Szmanowski (Hoelscher, violin, and Beroff, piano) and Boris Blacher's (South West German Radio SO).†
10.35 Chester Summer Music Festival 1983: Trevor Pinnock, harpsichord, plays Rameau's Suite in E minor, Bach's Prelude and Fugue in C (Well-Tempered Clavier); and the ItalianConcerto.†
11.15 Chicago SO: Ives Symph No 2; Liszt's Der nachtliche, Zug Mephisto Waltz: conductors Tilson-Thomas and Liesdorf.†
12.15 Concert Hall: Bartok's Sonata No 1, played by Peter Manning, violin and Julian Jacobson, piano.†1.00 News.
1.05 Off the Beaten Track: Miles Kington with records featuring, inter alia, Earl Hines, Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn, Bengt Hallberg and Ove Lind.†
1.30 Matinee Musicale: Ulster Orchestra in a first performance of Gareth Glyn's overture Eryri; also Finzi's Romance for String Orch; Johann Strauss's Emperor Waltz; Lennox Berkeley's Nocturne; and Grieg's LyricSuite.†
2.30 Voice, Flute and Clarinet: Felicity Lott (soprano), Susan Milan (flute) and Anthony Pay (clarinet) in works by Villa Lobos; Gordon Jacob; Richard Rodney Benett; Toussel and Copland (As it fell upon a day)†.
3.15 Amadeus String Trio: Mozart's String Trio movement in G, KANH 66; Schubert's String Trio movement in B flat, D 471; and Beethoven's String Trio in G, Op 9 No 1.†
4.00 Choral Evensong: live from Chelmsford Cathedral.†4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another of Michael Berkeley's selections of music.†
6.30 Debut: In his Radio 3 debut, Alan Weiss, piano, plays Chopin's Sonata in B minor, Op 58.†
7.00 Baroque Brass of London; with Christopher Bowers-Broadbent, organ. Works by Daniel Speer; Gottfried Reiche; Johann Pezel (Two Intrades); and Heinrich Biber (Sonata 'SanctiPolycarpi').†
7.30 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra: with Walter Klien. Direct from St David's Hall, Cardiff. Part one. Mozart's overture Don Gionanni; and the Piano Concerto No 27.†
8.10 Six Continents: Foreign radio broadcasts, monitored by the BBC.
8.30 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra: part two. Bruckner's Symphony No 7.†
9.40 Belfast Festival 1983: Jorge Bolet, piano, plays Brahms's Sonata No 3 in F minor, Op 5; and Rachmaninov's Variations on a theme by Chopin, Op 22; and Liszt's Venezia e Napoli: Gondoliera; Tarantella, G 162.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

VHF only – Open University. 6.35-6.55am Open Forum: Students' magazine; 11.20pm Social Sciences magazine; 11.40-12.00 Magnetic Circuits.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 9.00pm). Major bulletins: 7.00am, 1.00pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. News headlines: 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 (MF/MW). 4.00 Colin Berry.† 5.30 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan fincl 8.31 Racing Bulletin. 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Steve Jones fincl 1.05 Sport. 2.00 Gloria Hunniford fincl 2.02; 3.02 Sport. 3.30 Music all the way.† 4.00 David Hamilton fincl 4.02; 5.05 Sport. 6.00 John Dunn fincl 7.40 Milk Cup Final replay (MF/MW). 9.30 Listen to the Band. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 Give us a Conch! (last of the series) Paddy Feeney presents a natural history quiz, with guests battling for the glittering conch shell. 10.30 Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory. 11.00 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight) 1.00am Charles Nove presents Nightride. 3.00 Olympic Memories Lynn Davies and some team-mates share memories of Tokyo 1964.† 3.30-4.00 Tommy Reilly.† VHF: 4.00 With Radio 2: 7.40 John Dunn. 8.00 Hit List. 8.30 BBC Radio Orch. 9.15 Listen to the Band. 9.30 With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

Radio 1

News on the half-hour from 6.30 am until 8.30 pm and at 12.00 Midnight (MF/MW).

6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Gary Davies, incl 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell incl 5.30 Newsbeat. 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00 Mark Ellen.†

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Talking About Music. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Let There Be Drums. 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Peebles' Choice. 8.30 Two Cheers for March. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Anything for a Laugh. 10.15 Rock Back The Clock. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 Thomas Traherne on Creation. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 People and Places. 1.45 Edward Elgar. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 Two Cheers for March. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Rock Salad. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 8.30 Assignment. 9.00 Network UK. 9.15 World Service Short Story. 9.30 Jazz for the Asking. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Thomas Traherne on Creation. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 A Jolly Good Show. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Report on Religion. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 The Bach Family. 2.30 Sherlock Holmes. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Discovery. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 5.45 The World Today.

(All times in GMT)

BBC1 Wales: 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales Headlines. 3.48-3.50 News of Wales Headlines. 5.55 Wales today. 12.10am News and weather. Scotland: 12.55pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 5.55 Scotland: Sixty Minutes. 12.10am News and weather. Northern Ireland: 12.57pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.48-3.50 Northern Ireland News. 5.55 Scene Around Six. 12.10am News and weather. England: 5.55pm Regional news magazines. 12.15am Close.

S4C 2.00Beth, Sut, Pam, Pryd a Ble? 2.20 Ffalabalam. 2.35 Hyn O Fyd. 2.55 Egwyl/Interval. 3.15 Years Ahead. 4.00 4 What It's Worth. 4.25 People's Court. 4.55 Pictiwrs Bach. 5.00 Smyrffs. 5.30 The Munsters. 6.00 Brookside. 6.30 Bewitched. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Gofaint Gorau Cymru. 8.00 Gwraidd Y Gainc. 8.30 Y Byd Ar Bedwar. Penawdau Newyddion/News Headlines. 9.00 Film: Simon (Alan Arkin). 10.45 CamWo. 1.15 There'll Always Be Stars In the Sky. 12.10 Voices. 1.05 Diwedd/Close.

TVS As London except: starts 9.25 Farming Brief. 1.20 TVS News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 Home Rules. 2.10 Miracles Take Longer. 2.40 Mr & Mrs. 3.10 Newsbreak. 3.20 Sons and Daughters. 3.50 A-Z Gadgets. 5.15 Silver Spoons. 6.00 Coast To Coast. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Superstar Profile: Donald Sutherland. 12.30 Company, close.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

YORKSHIRE As London except: starts 9.25 9.30 Weather. 1.20 Calendar News. 5.15 5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 6.35 Calendar. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Barney Miller. 12.30 Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20 Central News. 1.30 Three Little Words. 2.00 Miracles Take Longer. 2.30-3.30 We'll Meet Again. 5.15-5.45 Mysteries, Myths and Legends. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Central News. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Poor Billy Render. 12.30 Close.

GRANADA As London except: 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 2.30 Exchange Flags. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 5.15 The Vintage Quiz. 6.00 This is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 7.00 Granada Reports. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. 12.30 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 North East news. 1.20 North East news. 1.25-1.30 Where the jobs are. 2.30-3.30 The Mysteries of Edgar Wallace.* 5.15-5.45 Family Trees. 6.00-6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Epilogue.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Channel news. 5.15 Joe 90. 5.45-6.00 Channel Report. 9.00 A chance to meet . . . Magnus Pike. 10.40 News at Ten. 10.48 Channel news. 10.44 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 11.40 Preview. 12.10 News and weather in French, closedown.

ULSTER As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 The Day Ahead. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.30 The Crazy World of Sport. 3.58-4.00 Ulster News. 5.15-5.45 Definition. 6.00-6.35 Good Evening, Ulster. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 News at Bedtime.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20 1.30 Scottish News. 3.30 4.00 Positively Unemployed. 5.10 Action Line. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Report. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 11.55 Late Call. 12.00 Private Benjamin. 12.30 Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20-1.30 TSW News headlines. 5.15 Gus Honeybun's Magic birthdays. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 Give Us A Clue. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Mysteries of Edgar Wallace.* 1.00 Postscript. 1.40 Weather and Closedown.

HTV WEST As London except: 12.30 Survival. 1.20 HTV News. 2.30 The Mysteries of Edgar Wallace*. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 5.15 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 HTV News. 11.00 Boxing (Colin Jones v Allan Braswell). 12.00 Weather.

HTV Wales As HTV West except: 6.00-6.35 Wales At Six.

GRAMPIAN As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 First Thing. 1.20-1.30 North News. 2.30 Love Boat. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 6.00 North Tonight. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Harvest Jazz Compilation. 12.55 North headlines. 1.00 Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 1.20-1.30 Border News. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00-6.35 Lookaround Wednesday. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend: Frankie Valli. 12.30 News summary, close.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20 1.30 Anglia News. 6.00 6.15 About Anglia. 11.00 Boxing: Colin Jones v Allan Braswell. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. 12.35 The Passover Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

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HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 930 9832 Group Sales 01-930 6123
VANESSA REDGRAVE WENDY HILLER
CHRISTOPHER REEVE
in
THE ASPERN PAPERS
Adapted by Michael Redgrave
Directed by Frith Banbury
"You know, as indeed you always know with Vanessa Redgrave, that you are in the presence of great acting" F.T. "Christopher Reeve . . . an excellent performance" Times. ". . . most elegant and persuasive" D. Mail. "Wendy Hiller . . . If I have to choose one performance to remember her by, this is it" Times
Evgs. Mon-Sat 7.30. Mat Wed. 2.30. Sats 3.0. FOR A LIMITED SEASON.

LA VIE EN ROSE cc. Gt Windmill Street W1. 437 6312/8380.
CABARET SHOWBAR
2 shows nightly 9.00 & 11.00
GLAMOROUS INTERNATIONAL FLOORSHOW
PARIS AFTER DARK
Featuring Europe's most beautiful girls
Fabulous Specialities. Sensational attractions plus guest artists from the world of showbusiness.
COCKTAILS, CABARET, DANCING.
Dinner available throughout the evening. Open 7.30-3am.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH S CC 741 2311 SHARED EXPERIENCE present MARRIAGE. Dir Mike Alfreds. Evgs 7.45. Mats Thur 2.30, Sat 4.00 "Abounds in joyous gags" Obs. LYRIC STUDIO: CHECKING OUT by Marcella Everist. Prevs Tomor, Fri. Sat 8 pm. Opens Mon 7pm.

LONDON PALLADIUM 01-437 7373 Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.45
FIRST EVER STAGE PRODUCTION
TOMMY STEELE in
SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
with ROY CASTLE
"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN HAS BROUGHT THE BIG LAVISH MUSICAL BACK TO THE WEST END WITH A VENGEANCE. LAVISH SETS, SUPERB HOLLYWOOD COSTUMES, GLITTERING BUSBY BERKELEY DANCE ROUTINES." Daily Express.
"A TRIUMPH FOR STEELE." S. Tel.
Credit card hotlines: Tel. 01-437 7373 or 01-437 2055. Now booking to February 1985.
GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER MONDAY SPECIAL PERFS BOTH DAYS 2.30.

LYRIC THEATRE Shaftesbury Avenue 01-437 3686 S CC 434 1050. Eves 7.30. Wed Mats 3.00, Sats 5.00 & 8.15
JUDI DENCH
Actress of the Year in a new play: Swet and Plays & Players London Theatre Critics' Award
JUDI DENCH MICHAEL WILLIAMS
RICHARD VERNON BARBARA LEIGH-HUNT
PACK OF LIES
by Hugh Whitemore
Directed by Clifford Williams
"IF I HAD TO SELECT AN EVENING FROM 1983 WHICH I WOULD NOT EXCHANGE FOR GOLD, THIS IS IT" Jack Tinker, Daily Mail.

LYTTELTON 928 2252 cc 928 5933 'S' (National Theatre's proscenium stage). Ton't. 7.45, Tomor 3.00 (low price mat) & 7.45 the award winning MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS by Athol Fugard. (Low price previews from 6 April. Opens 12 April VENICE PRESERV'D)

MAYFAIR S CC 629 3036. Mon-Thur 8. Fri & Sat 5.40 & 8.10. Group 930 6123
RICHARD TODD
ERIC LANDER, VIRGINIA STRIDE in
THE BUSINESS OF MURDER
"The best thriller for years" S.Mir. "An unabashed winner" S.Exp "A thriller that achieves it all. Sensational" Times. "The most ingenious mystery to have appeared in a decade. A play to be seen" Daily Mail
FOURTH GREAT YEAR
OVER 1250 PERFORMANCES

MERMAID 236 5568 Grps 930 6123
SHEILA GISH
"SPELLBINDING . . . I predict it will not be long before Miss Gish is hailed as legendary" D. Express.
A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE
"Alan Strachan's superb production . . . A MASTERPIECE" Times "Shattering" Sun Exp "I doubt we shall see a better Streetcar UNMISSABLE" Punch "It makes most of the West End's present offerings seem insubstantial" Stn. Eves 7.45. Sat Mat 3.00pm.

MERMAID THEATRE. 236 5568. The New Shakespeare Company in association with Lloyds Bank present
SHAKESPEARE WORKSHOPS
WINTER TALES Until Fri 30 March. 11.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunchbreak. All seats £2.50.

NATIONAL THEATRE South Bank
NATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY
SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER / LYTTELTON / COTTESLOE.
Now booking for all April perfs. Excellent cheap seats day of perf all 3 theatres from 10am. Car park. RESTAURANT 928 2033. TOURS OF THE BUILDING (inc backstage) £1.75. Inf. 633 0880.

NEW LONDON cc Drury Lane WC2 01-405 0072 or 01-404 4079. Evgs 7.45 Tues & Sat 3.0 & 7.45.
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T. S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Group Bookings 01-405 1567 or 01-930 6123 (Apply daily to Box Office for returns. LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION. PLEASE BE PROMPT.)
Bars open 6.45pm.
NEW BOOKING PERIOD NOW OPEN TILL 4th AUGUST '84. POSTAL APPLICATIONS ONLY ACCEPTED FOR PERIOD AUGUST 6th ONWARDS.
THE LONGER YOU WAIT THE LONGER YOU'LL WAIT

OLD VIC. 928 7616 CC 261 1821.
LAST TWO WEEKS!
Evgs 7.30, Wed Mat 2.30, Sat 4.0 & 7.45
"GORGEOUS PRODUCTION . . . THE MOST EXHILARATING GILBERT & SULLIVAN I HAVE SEEN" . . Obs.
Stratford Festival Canada in
THE MIKADO
"SPECTACULAR, like an oriental Kaleidoscope" Guardian.
"A KNOCKOUT," Times.

OLD VIC. 928 7616. CC 261 1821. The Market Theatre Company, Johannesburg in
SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE PALACE
award-winning play
by PAUL SLABOLEPSZY
Low price previews 9, 10 April. Opens 11 April for strictly limited six-week engagement. NOW BOOKING!

OLIVIER 928 2252 CC 928 5933 'S' (National Theatre's open stage). Today 2.00 (low price mat) & 7.15 SAINT JOAN by Shaw. Tomor 8.00 (last perfs. ends 5 April) JEAN SEBERG

PALACE 437 6834 cc 437 8327
"The amazing ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER chalks up another winner" S Mirror
SONG AND DANCE
Starring LIZ ROBERTSON in TELL ME ON A SUNDAY and WAYNE SLEEP in VARIATIONS. "The best rock-jazz-classical-tapdance-musical-theatre-ballet I've witnessed" Derek Jewell Sunday Times. "A milestone . . . it has to be seen" S. Tel. Eve 8.0, Sat 5.45 & 8.30. Some good seats still available most perfs. Group sales 930 6123 or 437 6834.
Final performance on March 31st.
LAST FEW DAYS THIRD GREAT YEAR

PHOENIX 01-836 2294/8611.
SIAN PHILLIPS
and introducing Broadway's ANN MORRISON as
PEG
A Romantic New Musical
Eves 8.00, Mats Thur 3.00 Sats 5.00 & 8.30
Reduced price prevs from Apr 6
Opens Apr 12 at 7.00

PRINCE EDWARD. Tel 01-437 6877 Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's
EVITA
THE WORLD'S MOST AWARDED MUSICAL
Directed by Hal Prince. Evgs. 8.0. Mats Thurs & Sat at 3.0. Evg. perfs end 10.15. C.C. Hotline 439 8499. 631 1101 Grp Sales 930 6123 or Box Off.

PICCADILLY. Open from 7 pm to 2 am. COCKTAILS – SUPPER – DANCING – MIDNIGHT CABARET.
Nightly at 9 pm.
A CABARET MUSICAL
"Y"
Starring Arturo Brachetti
Dir. Jean Marie Riviere
"A REMARKABLE NIGHT OUT" Gdn "TREMENDOUS SPECTACLE. TREMENDOUS FUN" BBC
AN EVENING FROM £3.50
Reservations 437 4506. Credit cards 379 6565/741 9999. Grps 836 3962.

PICCADILLY. Entrance from 11pm £5. Licensed until 2am. Music, Dancing. Midnight Cabaret CLEM CURTIS & THE FOUNDATIONS. Supper available.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. 01-930 8681 Credit card hotline 741 9999. Grp Sales 01-930 6123. Evgs Mon-Sat 7.30. Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30
DANNY LA RUE
"marvellous . . . in a class of his own" D.Tel.
in
HELLO, DOLLY!
with
LIONEL JEFFRIES
"Outstanding" Gdn.
and
LORNA DALLAS
MUST END APRIL 21

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 01-930 8681 cc Hotline 01-930 0844
RUSS ABBOT
SHEILA WHITE
in
LITTLE ME
A Musical Comedy
Previews from May 18. Opens May 30. Advance Box Office now open.

QUEENS c.c. 01-734 1166. 439 3849/4031 Group Sales 01-930 6123.
PENELOPE KEITH
"Dazzling comic performance" Gdn.
IN
HAY FEVER
BY
NOEL COWARD
Evgs Mon-Fri 7.30 Mats Weds 3.0. Sats 5.0 & 8.15
OVER 100 PERFORMANCES. LAST THREE WEEKS. BOOK NOW!

QUEENS THEATRE Tel: 01-734 0261. 01-734 0120. Grp Sales 930 6123. Previews April 17, 18, 19 & 23 at 8.0. Sat April 21 at 5.0 & 8.15. Opens April 24 at 7.0.
LEO McKERN in
NUMBER ONE
A new comedy by JEAN ANOUILH
Adapted by MICHAEL FRAYN
Directed by ROBERT CHETWYN
Subs Evgs 8.0pm. Mats Weds 3.0. Sats 5.0 & 8.15

RAYMOND REVUEBAR CC 734 1593. Mon-Sat 7 pm, 9 pm, 11 pm. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New! New acts. New thrills. New sensations. The world's centre of erotic entertainment. 26th great year

ROYAL COURT S CC 730 1745. Prevs from Mar 30 Joint Stock Theatre Grp presents THE GREAT CELESTIAL COW by Sue Townsend. Dir by Carole Hayman. Evgs 8pm. Opens April 3 at 8pm. "Very funny, touching, telling and moving a little gem" Gdn.

also on page 29

Chaos as miners choke motorway with 5mph crawl

By Craig Seton

Striking miners adopted the tactics of French lorry drivers yesterday and brought chaos to an eigh-mile motorway section of the A1 in South Yorkshire by driving 150 cars in convoy down the south-bound carriageway at only five miles an hour.

The protest by Yorkshire miners was described by police as "sheer cussedness" and eighteen of the drivers were arrested for alleged obstruction.

Elsewhere in the coalfields eight policemen were hurt during scuffles on a picket line outside the National Coal Board Area headquarters in Doncaster and in Staffordshire four miners in the Hem Heath Colliery Stoke-on-Trent staged a sit-in 3,000 feet underground to protest against strike action. In the Midlands there were signs that hundreds of miners were defying a strike call by the NUM's Area Council.

The A1 protest started early yesterday when about 150 miners' cars, lined abreast across both lanes of the carriageway and in convoy crawled southwards at a snail's pace for eight miles between Wadworth, South Yorkshire, and the Blyth round-about on the Nottinghamshire border where they were stopped by police.

The protest was thought to be in retaliation for the action of Nottinghamshire police in stopping flying pickets from Yorkshire at road checks and sending them back.

Yorkshire police closed the affected section of the motorway for two hours to avoid adding to the chaos but hundreds of vehicles were trapped by the block of miners' cars and the tailback of traffic stretched for nearly 12 miles.

Superintendent Peter Owen, of Doncaster police said: "It was sheer cussedness on their part. They were trying to adopt French lorry drivers' tactics but to use it was a straight offence of obstructing the highway."

Some of the miners involved had earlier picketed the Yorkshire headquarters of the National Coal Board in Doncaster where yesterday eight police were hurt and 20 miners arrested. PC Stephen Fairclough, aged 23, collapsed during scuffles and was taken to hospital, but no injuries were found. Seven other policemen received minor injuries caused by heaving and pushing on the picket lines but staff at the headquarters were able to get through to work.

At the Hem Heath Colliery, Stoke-on-Trent, four face workers defied a call to strike and staged a sit-in 3,000 feet below ground. Mr Jim Yates, aged 47, his son Michael, aged 27, Mr Terry Hackett, aged 41, and Mr Peter Knapper, aged 35, held a press conference below ground at the pit and blamed "bully boys" for frightening the men who wanted to work.

Hundreds of other miners in Staffordshire and Warwickshire yesterday defied the strike call by the Midlands Area of the NUM and ignored angry pickets to keep at least some production going at five of eleven pits.

The Area Executive calld on its 13,000 miners to strike despite a 3 to 1 vote against such action in a ballot two weeks ago. Mr Joe Mckie, the Area President of the NUM said he expected all pits to be at a standstill by the weekend and added: "We want all flying pickets out of the Midlands area now. We will handle our own affairs."

At Lea Hall Colliery, Rugeley, Staffordshire, where about 50 per cent of the morning shift defied angry South Wales pickets and went into work, windows in two coaches carrying workers were broken by pickets, police said last night.

At Nuneaton, a train carrying thousands of tonnes of coal from Nottingham to London was halted for three hours when its driver saw the words "NUM Official picket line" painted on a footbidge over the line. He refused to go on and another driver prepared to cross the unmanned picket line had to be found.

In Nottinghamshire all 25 pits were working normally, but 20 pickets were arrested at the Silverhill Colliery, near Mansfield. In North Derbyshire eight out of nine pits were at a standstill. In South Derbyshire about 1,000 pickets, mostly from the north of the county were at the Cadley Heath Colliery near Swadlincote where normal attendance and production was reported.

The Scottish triple alliance of steel, rail, and mining unions yesterday increased their action in support of the miners' strike by picketing the Ravenscraig steelworks, in Lanarkshire. The NUM is to send more pickets today to Inverness and Peterhead where cargoes of up to 1,000 tons of coal have been landed by ship in recent days despite picketing by miners.





Rough and tumble: Scenes outside the National Coal Board headquarters in Doncaster yesterday. Above: Police leading away a picket and (below) a tangle of bodies after a fence collapsed.

Cool Queen lifts British prestige in Jordan

Continued from page 1

tragedy" – was reflected in an editorial in yesterday's *Jordan Times*.

Commenting on the implications of the visit, whose security risks have been played down by the controlled Jordanian media, the paper said: "One of the virtues of the British that we have always admired is the ability to snap back from an error and to do right with other people. Thus it is gratifying to see British policy in the Middle East today based on the logical principle of granting the Palestinians the right to national self-determination, despite the fact that in the early years of this century, the British had a conspicuously less glorious history of involvement with the Palestinian issue."

The concern felt by the British authorities for the Queen's safety – which appears to have had less psychological effect on the royal couple than on may of those officials responsible for their programme – is illustrated by the presence in Amman of Deputy Assistant Commissioner Colin Smith, the man selected in 1982 to take overall charge of the Royal Family's security.

Mr Smith does not always accompany the Queen on her frequent trips abroad. But he has played a major role in the plans now in operation for her protection, earning the Fleet Street nickname of the "The Jackal Hunter", because of the ever-present fear that a single sniper may try to score a terrorist coup.

Also never far from the Queen's side is Superintendent Jim Beaton, her personal bodyguard, who was once wounded protecting Princess Anne from attack in Britain. His role in an emergency is

The Queen was able to escape from the oppressive security for a welcome hour yesterday to the relative calm and safety of the national stud, home of some of the most magnificent Arab stallions in the world.

Dressed in a matching lime green hat and coat, and looking relaxed and fascinated by the more than 70 horses on show, the Queen appeared as at home as she is among her own horses in England.

Their hostess was Princess Aliya, aged 28, King Husain's eldest daughter by his first wife, who was educated at Benenden, the English public school attended by Princess Anne, and speaks flawless English.

Ministers fail again in Brussels

Continued from page 1

end of the road and the British cannot expect to keep picking up the negotiations from where they left off."

The Junior Dutch Minister, Mr Wim van Eekelen, said: "We are fed up with negotiating with a partner who doesn't want to move. It is an unbelievably harsh attitude of the British, and most of the nine are just afraid of being milked further by Britain." He accused Britain of "salami tactics" – trying to get the whole sausage in slices.

Sir Geoffrey tried to adopt a much more conciliatory note and carefully avoided blaming any of the other ministers for what had happened. "There is always a sense of regret when the Community fails to reach an agreement on any important question", he said.

"Once the agreement is reached, there is relief and, in the interim period, regret tends to dominate". In his view, the threat by the others to withdraw offers lying on the table was not a real one. "The problems remain. The gaps remain. The gaps have to be bridged and, in the end, the problems will have to be solved".

Sir Geoffrey said he had come to the meeting with a great willingness to respond to the proposals made. The British Government wanted to build on the work done during the summit and he had asked specialists to try to complete texts on the six main outstanding issues so that they could be adopted by the June summit.

The six items, however, include the British budget problem and therefore Sir Geoffrey's suggestion for a calm approach was not immediately taken up.

After a long meeting spanning two days, the agriculture ministers abandoned their attempts to settle this year's farm prices because Ireland could win little but sympathy at the negotiating table.

Ireland, which claims it has an artificially low milk production figure, insists it must be allowed exemption from new proposals aimed at reducing the size of the EEC milk lake.

M Michel Rogard, the French Agriculture Minister, chairing the meeting, regarded it as nonsense for Britain to be pressing for more New Zealand butter imports. It was just not logical to allow this until the Community had sorted out its milk problems.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother unveils a Memorial to Noel Coward in Westminster Abbey, 11.25.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, attends a concert in aid of the Blackie Foundation Trust, St James's Palace, London, 8.

The Duke of Gloucester attends a concert given by the Leicestershire Schools Chamber Orchestra in aid of Leicestershire's Appeal for Music and the Arts (LAMA), at Stationers' Hall, London, 7.

The Duchess of Gloucester opens the Clinical Diagnostic Unit, Kidderminster Hospital, 11.35; and later visits Brintons Limited, Exchange Street, 12.25, Worcestershire.

The Duchess of Kent, as an Honorary Freewoman, attends the Charities Luncheon of the Clothworkers' Company at Clothworkers' Hall, Dunster Court, Mincing Lane, EC3, 1.05.

Music

Concert by Northern Sinfonia, St. Cuthbert's, Carlisle, 7.30.

Concert by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, with Wilfred Boettcher and Konstanty Kulka, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Organ concert by Fox's Keyboard Society with Peter Hayward, Memorial Hall, Barkers Pool, Sheffield, 7.30.

Piano recital by Leslie Riskowitz, Rhyl Music Club, Rhyl Town Hall, Rhyl, 7.30.

Talks, lectures

A Heritage in the Present Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

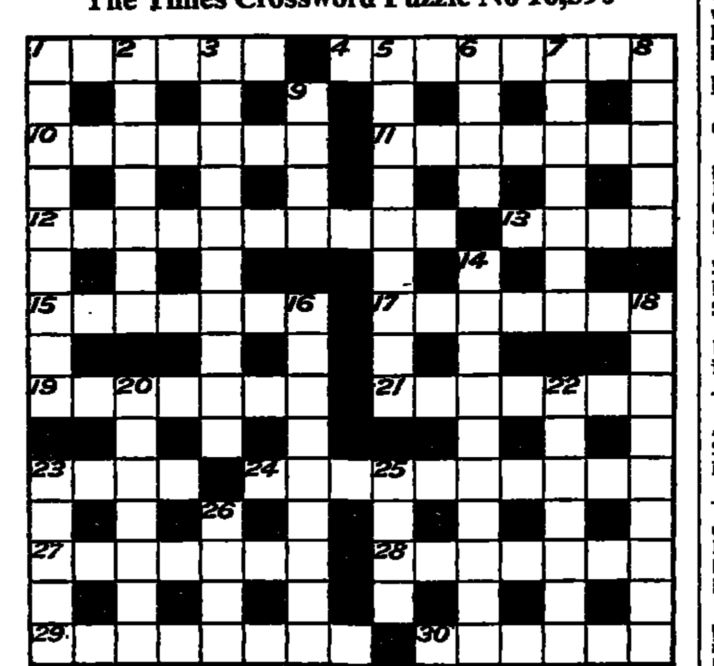
Being a Christian today, by Roger Taylor, St. Ann's Church, Manchester, 1.20. International Garden Festival 84, by Lord Aberconway, Free Trade Hall, Peters Street, Manchester, 1.30.

Licensed Anarchy – some problems of informal transactions in land, by Prof. Graham Battersby, Newton Lecture Theatre, Newton Building, Trent Polytechnic, Burton Street, Nottingham, 2.15.

Exhibitions in progress

Given to the Museum: an exhibition of gifts to the Banbury Museum, 8, Horsefair, Banbury; *from Wed and Sat 10 to 4, closed* Tues, Thurs, Fri and Sun (until 30 April) or Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (from May 1) closed Sun (ends May 14).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,390



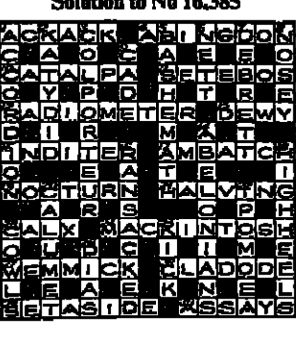
ACROSS

1 Lucerne detective declares his occupation (6).
4 Mine after a month about worn out (8).
10 One Italian girl in fine fabric, showing gaps (7).
11 Two blokes translating Homer? (7).
12 Musical clock I call no end fanciful (10).
13 In the Bible a helpmeet for a patriarch (4).
15 Measure for surgeons, perhaps? (7).
17 Sound of a horn, also that of a bell, in London (7).
19 Like clockwork, his visits to the pub? (7).
21 Insects we need to dunk right in the drink (7).
23 Boy's optical aid (4).
24 Piece of music used by Chinamen as a matter of course (10).
27 One reaping harvest in the fall (7).
28 Criticize old war-time measure, bringer of many ills (7).
29 Datum line popular with bad sailors (3-5).
30 Saw contained beryllium in the first place (6).

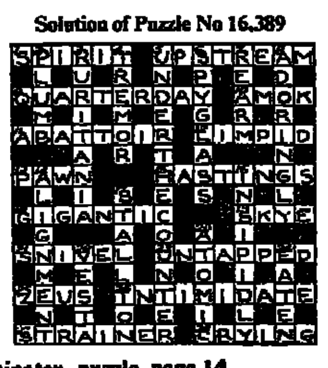
DOWN

1 Like a particle of fish caught up in a tooth (9).
2 Most of the book of words in a manner of speaking (7).
3 The only one in her family to have a fit (10).
5 "A savage place! as holy and —" (Coleridge) (9).
6 What the horseman, it's said, did on this (4).
7 Splendid show that's mounted, one in the old city (7).
8 The North Carolina variety of fish (5).
9 Iolanthe by one other variety of fish (5).
14 Ability to vie, catching unlimited 8 (10).
16 Swell eating fish – hence extra demand (9).
18 Nicholas Nye beginning to live in magnificent pasture (9).
20 Design of gold on a canal-boat (7).
22 Shut up two quarters in the immediate vicinity (7).
23 Something plaguey without end in the maths line (5).
25 One of three aids to solution of Holmes's problem with the Reds (4).
26 No confused type of painter (4).

Solution to No 16,385



Solution of Puzzle No 16,389



● Explanation of Eliminator puzzle, page 14

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Rates Bill, completion of remaining stages.

Lords (2.30): Debate on White Paper on training for jobs.

Sheep dips

The Ministry of Agriculture has announced details of its sheep scab eradication programme. Two compulsory dipping periods will apply throughout Britain, the first between July 15 and August 11, the second from September 23 to November 3. An assurance is given that at the end of the summer period, individual extensions will be considered for the undisturbed portion of flocks on the open fell. Mr David Lloyd, Chairman of the Animal Health Committee of the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales, commented: "I cannot urge too strongly the importance of all flock-owners dipping properly and in accordance with the requirements. Otherwise, we will never stamp out this disease."

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New books – hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

Arnold Schoenber and Wassily Kandinsky, letters, pictures, and documents, edited by Jelena Hahl-Kock, translated by John C. Crawford (Faber, £20, paperback £9.95).
Elizabeth Bishop, The Collected Prose, edited and introduced by Robert Giroux (Chatto & Windus, £12.95.
Enderby's Dark Lady, by Anthony Burgess (Hutchinson, £7.95).
English Journey, or The Road to Milton Keynes, by Beryl Bainbridge (Duckworth/BBC, £7.95).
F. Scott Fitzgerald, by Andre Le Vot, translated by William Byron (Allen Lane, £14.95).
Republicans and Imperialists, Anglo-Irish Relations in the 1930s, by Deidre McMahon (Yale, £20).
Saul Bellow and History, by Judie Newman (Macmillan, £20).
Scouse Mouse or I Never Got Over It, an autobiography by George Melly (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £8.95).
The Camomile Lawn, a novel, by Mary Wesley (Macmillan, £8.95).
Wellington's War, His Peninsular Dispatches presented by Julian Rathbone (Michael Joseph, £15).

PH

Roads

Midlands and East Anglia: A10: Traffic signals along St Mary's Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire. **M1:** Contraflow between junctions 16 (Northampton) and 18 (Rugby). **A6:** Temporary signals at Matlock Bath.

Wales and West: A30: Temporary lights at tunnel bridges, Salisbury and at Winterslow, on Salisbury to Stockbridge Road, Wiltshire. **A381/A385:** Temporary traffic lights at Brutus Bridge, Bridgetown Hill, Totnes. **A470:** Builth Wells-Llyswen 24-hr temporary traffic signals on road at Erwood.

North: A41: Kerbing and footpath work at Christleton Mill and Great Boughton, Chester. **A54:** Drainage work between A49 and Winsford; traffic lights. **A635:** Single lane traffic and temporary lights at Wilthorpe, Gawber, Barnsley; temporary lights.

Scotland: Width restriction in Dumbarton Road, Glasgow, between Church Street and Argyle Street. **A77:** Northbound carriageway closed south of Mearns Cross, Newton Mearns, Renfrewshire; two-way traffic on southbound. One lane only each wayin West Approach Road at Grove Street Bridge, Edinburgh.

Information supplied by AA.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.59	1.51
Austria Sch	27.60	26.00
Belgium Fr	82.25	78.25
Canada $	1.91	1.84
Denmark Kr	14.30	13.60
Finland Mkk	8.38	7.98
France Fr	11.90	11.40
Germany DM	3.88	3.70
Greece Dr	160.00	150.00
Hongkong $	11.65	11.05
Ireland Pt	1.28	1.22
Italy Lira	2390.00	2290.00
Japan Yen	339.00	323.00
Netherlands Gld	4.39	4.17
Norway Kr	11.32	10.72
Portugal Esc	197.00	187.00
South Africa Rd	1.97	1.83
Spain Pta	217.00	208.00
Sweden Kr	11.62	11.04
Switzerland Fr	3.23	3.06
USA $	1.49	1.44
Yugoslavia Dnr	183.00	173.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 344.0.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 14.6 at 875.

The papers

The **Daily Star**, commenting on the Intoximeter controversy, says that it is clearly vital that motorists suspected of being drunk are only prosecuted when there is no question about the level of alcohol in their blood. At the moment police refuse to allow blood tests except in marginal cases. "But why on earth has the Home Office decided that the "trial" period will only start on April 19?" it asks. "What will happen to the motorists tested by the machine between now and then? Must they - and we - just accept the readings of a machine in which there is now an official lack of confidence? Blood tests should be available immediately to anyone given an Intoximeter test."

Like a middle-aged, balding trendy desperate to get with it, British Telecom is contemplating getting a new voice for its speaking clock, the **Daily Mirror** says. "No matter that the present voice does *the job perfectly. British Telecom* means to be different, even if different means worse. The same kind of reasoning made it change its name, gave all its vans a new colour, put a rash of blue dots on everything it owned and tempted it to paint its 'phone boxes yellow. Those whom Mrs Thatcher would privatize first go mad."

In the past few days the coal strike has taken on an entirely new dimension, the **Daily Express** comments. "The grim fact is that the law-breakers are winning, democracy and legality are being defeated, despite yesterday's call by nine members of the NUM executive for a ballot. That is the blunt truth Mrs Thatcher and Mr Macgregor, the Coal Board chairman, must face."

Anniversaries

Births: **Raphael**, Urbino, Italy, 1483; **Saint Teresa of Avila**, Avila, Spain, 1515; **Johann Comenius**, educational reformer, Nivnice, Czechoslovakia, 1592; **Thomas Clarkson**, abolitionist, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, 1760; **Corneille Heymans**, physiologist, Nobel laureate 1938, Ghent, Belgium, 1892.

Deaths: **Peg Woffington**, actress, London, 1760; **William Thornton**, architect (Capitol, Washington), Washington, 1828; **Viginia Woolf**, Rodmell, Sussex, 1941; **Sergey Rachmaninoff**, Beverley Hills, California, 1943; **Dwight Eisenhower**, general, 34th President of the USA (1953-61), Washington 1969. The fall of Madrid, ending the civil war in Spain, 1939.

Weather

Pressure will remain low over British Isles. Most places will have showers and sunny intervals although northern Scotland will have rain which will die out slowly from S.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S, central N England, E, W Midlands, Channel Islands: Any mist and fog pathes clearing, sunny intervals and scattered showers; wind variable light; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

East Anglia, E England: Cloudy with rain in places at first, sunny intervals and scattered showers developing; wind variable light; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

SW England, S, N Wales: Showers and sunny intervals, wind W or NW moderate; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

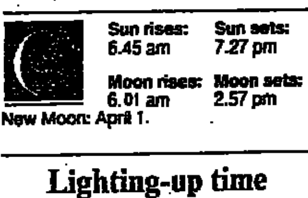
NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Mist and fog patches clearing, sunny intervals and scattered showers; wind variable light becoming N or NE, moderate; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Cloudy, with outbreaks of rain turning showery later; wind variable light; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, with outbreaks of rain, gradually dying out from S; wind NE to N, moderate or fresh; max temp 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Showers and sunny intervals; rather cold; frost and fog patches at night.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NW, strong becoming cyclonic moderate or fresh, sea rough becoming slight or moderate. English Channel (E): Wind variable light or moderate becoming NW locally fresh. Sea slight or moderate. St. Georges's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind variable light, sea smooth.



Sun rises: 6.45 am Sun sets: 7.27 pm

Moon rises: 6.01 am Moon sets: 2.57 pm

New Moon: April 1.

Lighting-up time

London 7.57 pm to 6.13 am
Bristol 8.07 pm to 6.22 am
Edinburgh 8.13 pm to 6.21 am
Manchester 8.01 pm to 6.19 am
Penzance 8.18 pm to 6.35 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow:

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	8	43	Guernsey	c	8	46
Birmingham	f	9	48	Inverness	r	5	41
Blackpool	f	8	46	Jersey	f	9	48
Bristol	f	7	45	London	c	9	48
Cardiff	f	9	48	Manchester	f	9	48
Edinburgh	r	5	48	Newcastle	f	8	46
Glasgow	dr	6	43	Ronaldsway	f	7	45

London

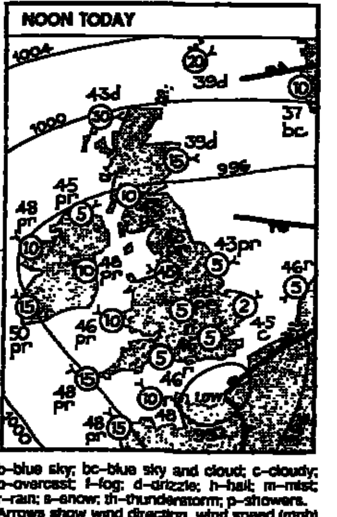
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity, 6 pm, 89 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.17in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.7 hr. Bar, mean sea level: 6 pm, 9923 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53in

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Manchester, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Fair Isle, 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen, 0.98in; highest sunshine: Bridlington, 8.3hr.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)





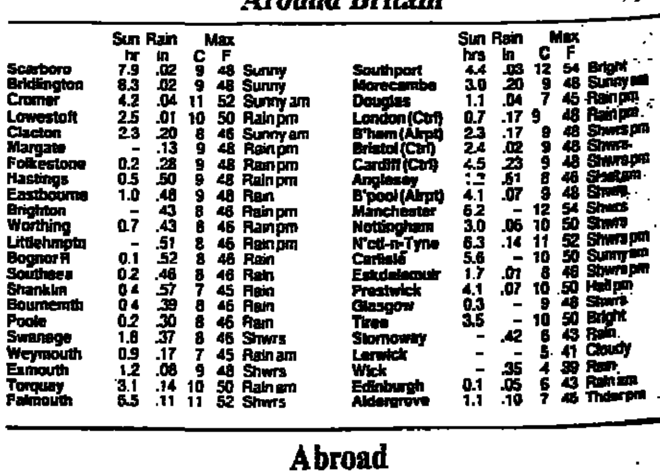
b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge			12.34	6.2
Aberdeen	12.04	3.4	12.04	3.4
Avonmouth	5.33	10.3	6.04	10.5
Belfast	9.42	3.0	10.11	2.9
Cardiff	5.18	9.6	5.49	9.8
Devonport	4.06	4.4	4.48	4.4
Dover	10.01	5.4	10.12	5.5
Falmouth	3.36	4.2	4.16	4.2
Glasgow	11.56	4.1		
Harwich	10.31	3.5	10.54	3.5
Holyhead	9.13	4.7	9.50	4.7
Hull	5.07	5.7	5.10	6.1
Ilfracombe	4.36	7.3	5.06	7.3
Leith	1.12	4.6	1.33	4.8
Liverpool	9.56	7.8	10.29	7.9
Lowestoft	8.27	2.1	8.14	2.1
Margate	11.00	4.1	11.03	4.0
Milford Haven	4.53	5.6	5.23	5.6
Newquay	3.48	5.7	4.17	5.7
Oban	4.58	3.3	5.30	3.1
Penzance	3.13	4.4	3.50	4.4
Portland	5.10	1.5	5.58	1.4
Portsmouth	10.09	3.7	10.49	4.0
Shoreham	9.55	4.9	10.27	3.9
Southampton	9.47	3.7	10.27	3.9
Swansea	4.52	7.5	5.26	7.8
Tees	2.26	4.3	2.35	4.5
Walton-on-Naze	10.31	3.5	10.43	3.5

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	7.9	.02	9	48	Sunny	Southport	4.4	.03	12	54	Bright
Bridlington	8.3	.02	9	48	Sunny	Morecambe	3.0	.20	9	48	Sunny am
Cromer	4.2	.04	11	52	Sunny am	Douglas	1.1	.04	7	45	Rain pm
Lowestoft	2.5	.01	10	50	Rain pm	London (Ctrl)	0.7	.17	9	48	Rain pm
Clacton	2.3	.20	8	46	Sunny am	B'ham (Airpt)	2.3	.17	9	48	Shwrs pm
Margate	–	.13	9	48	Rain pm	Bristol (Ctrl)	2.4	.02	9	48	Shwrs
Folkestone	0.2	.28	9	48	Rain pm	Cardiff (Ctrl)	4.5	.23	9	48	Shwrs pm
Hastings	0.5	.50	9	48	Rain pm	Anglesey	[illegible]	.61	8	46	Sleet pm
Eastbourne	1.0	.48	9	48	Rain	B'pool (Airpt)	4.1	.07	9	48	Shwrs
Brighton	–	.43	8	46	Rain pm	Manchester	6.2	–	12	54	Shwrs
Worthing	0.7	.43	8	46	Rain pm	Nottingham	3.0	.06	10	50	Shwrs
Littlehmptn	–	.51	8	46	Rain pm	N'ctl-n-Tyne	6.3	.14	11	52	Shwrs pm
Bognor R	0.1	.52	8	46	Rain	Carlisle	5.6	–	10	50	Sunny am
Southsea	0.2	.46	8	46	Rain	Eskdalemuir	1.7	.01	8	46	Shwrs pm
Shanklin	0.4	.57	7	45	Rain	Prestwick	4.1	.07	10	50	Hail pm
Bournemth	0.4	.39	8	46	Rain	Glasgow	0.3	–	9	48	Shwrs
Poole	0.2	.30	8	46	Rain	Tiree	3.5	–	10	50	Bright
Swanage	1.8	.37	8	46	Shwrs	Stornoway	–	.42	6	43	Rain
Weymouth	0.9	.17	7	45	Rain am	Lerwick	–	–	5	41	Cloudy
Exmouth	1.2	.08	9	48	Shwrs	Wick	–	.35	4	39	Rain
Torquay	3.1	.14	10	50	Rain am	Edinburgh	0.1	.05	6	43	Rain am
Falmouth	6.5	.11	11	52	Shwrs	Aldergrove	1.1	.10	7	45	Thdr pm

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	16	61	Copenhgn	c	2	36	Majorca	s	16	61	Rio de Jan*	s	28	82
Akrotiri	s	18	64	Corfu	s	18	64	Malaga	s	18	64	Rome	f	16	61
Alexandria	f	20	68	Dallas*	s	26	79	Malta*	s	19	66	Salzburg	f	13	55
Algiers	s	20	68	Dublin	c	8	46	Melbourne	f	15	59	Sao Paulo*	s	26	79
Amsterdam	r	8	46	Dubrovnik	f	15	59	Mexico C*	s	26	79	S Francisco*	r	14	57
Athens	s	20	68	Faro	f	16	61	Miami*	f	29	84	Santiago*	s	28	82
Bahrain				Florence	c	15	59	Milan	s	11	52	Seoul	s	7	45
Barbados*	c	28	82	Frankfurt	r	8	46	Montreal*	s	−1	30	Singapore	f	32	90
Barcelona	s	17	63	Funchal	f	19	66	Moscow	c	1	34	Stockholm	sn	0	32
Beirut*	f	17	63	Geneva	f	12	54	Munich	f	10	50	Strasbourg	c	12	54
Belgrade	f	16	61	Gibraltar	s	19	66	Nairobi				Sydney	c	21	70
Berlin*	f	9	48	Helsinki	sn	0	32	Naples	f	15	59	Tangier*	f	17	63
Bermuda*	f	23	73	Hongkong	s	23	73	New Delhi	s	30	86	Tel Aviv	f	18	64
Biarritz	c	15	59	Innsbruck	f	9	48	New York*	s	8	46	Tenerife	c	20	68
Boulogne	r	8	46	Istanbul	s	15	59	Nice	s	16	61	Tokyo	s	12	54
Bordeaux	r	13	55	Jiddah	s	28	82	Oslo	sn	−1	30	Toronto*	s	1	34
Brussels	c	10	50	Jo'burg				Ottawa				Tunis	c	19	66
Budapest*	c	14	57	Karachi	s	30	86	Paris	r	8	46	Valencia	f	18	64
Buen Aires*	s	21	70	Las Palmas	s	20	68	Peking	s	12	54	Vancouver*	f	8	46
Cairo	s	19	66	Lisbon	c	15	59	Perth	s	27	81	Venice	f	13	55
Cape Tn	s	21	70	Locarno	s	11	52	Prague*	s	13	55	Vienna	s	14	57
C'blanca*	c	16	61	L Angeles*	c	16	61	Reykjavik	sn	−1	30	Warsaw	f	11	52
Chicago*	c	6	43	Luxembg	f	7	45	Rhodes	s	19	66	Washington*	r	7	45
Cologne	f	11	52	Madrid	c	11	52	Riyadh	s	26	79	Zurich	f	12	54

* denotes Monday's figures are latest available